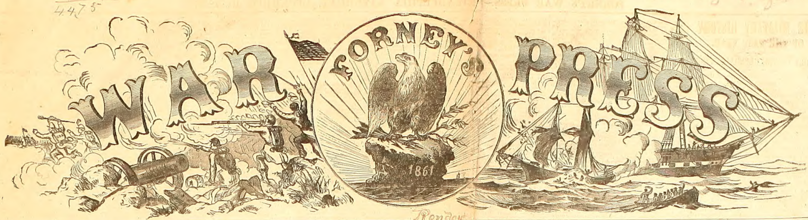
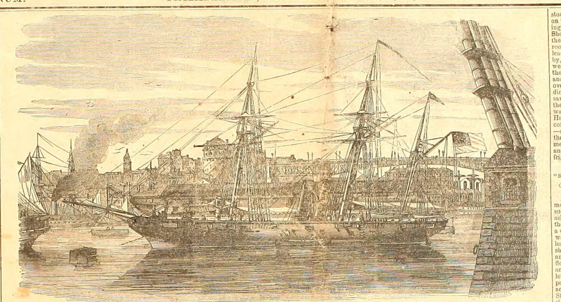
89% Cwt
8.95 per Thousand
4475

List of Killed at Lookout and Missionary Ridges



TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1863. VOL. III.—NO. 6.



PIRATE STEAMER FLORIDA IN THE HARBOR OF BREST, FRANCE.

[Written for The War Press.]

TO ——.

I know you well; your dark eyes spoke
A language far too meaning,
When they were raised to greet the form
Above your casement leaning.

You love me not! I can forgive
Your coldness—your discretion—
When I recall *his* eyes, with their
Indifferent expression.

You love me not! I almost thought
To *hate* you for the saying,
But now I *pity* you, for that
Another is repaying.

You love me not! *He* loves not *you!*
Mon ami, we are equal.
Strange! that one loving glance of yours
Could tell my heart the sequel! A. E. C.

[Written for the War Press.]

THE RAINBOW.

"I do set my bow in the cloud."—*Gen. 19th, 13th.*

See'st thou yon bow of promise,
Pillowed in the sunset sky?
Tells it of a brighter morrow,
When earth's pearly tears are dry?
Does it sing of flowers and sunshine?
Whispers it of angels fair,
As it droops its emerald pinions
Throned amid the rosy air.

Has it caught and held a moonbeam,
Snatched the ruby lamp from Mars;
Kissed a ray from day's proud monarch,
Whilst he slept among the stars!
Is it the train of some fair spirit,
Borne by angels through the air,
Robed in purple clouds of sunset,
Diamonds in her golden hair!

Tell me, is it a new-born angel
Passing from God's throne on high;
Crowned, and singing her evangel
To the armies of the sky!
Or is it the gate of some young star world
Floating 'mid the ether blue?
Neither these; it speaks a lesson—
Man is changeful, God is true. C. T.

PHILADELPHIA.

[Written for The War Press.]

CLOUDS.

While the last dim light is waning,
Tune the voice of thy complaining,
Soul! thou bitter soul!
Lift thine eyes where float the yellow
Golden clouds, with tints so mellow
In one gorgeous scroll.

Far away they kiss the river,
Gleaming like a bar of silver,
Through the dusky wold.
See! its waves have caught the splendor,
Deeper light—more sweet—more tender—
Waves of liquid gold!

Pass! within my breast ye waken
Sunshine that was once o'ertaken
By the lightning's stroke.
Clouds which followed rained their tear-drops
Only o'er the blighted heart crops
When my soul awoke.

Pass and leave the earth more cheerless;
Thus my heart shall be more fearless—
Fearless of her fate.
Loved I ere the sunshine parted?
I, alas! am broken-hearted!
Neither love nor hate. A. E. C.

[Written for The War Press.]

ABIGAIL.

BY M. L. S.

CHAPTER XV.

"Come to mamma, Harry," said Abby, holding out her hands. She was pleased when he avoided any one. She was very jealous. Mrs. Whitham looked keenly at her.

"You've got your heart too much set on that child, ma'am. It's very unwholesome for you to be altogether taken up with one thing so much—crazed about it, as one may say. Now, I'm not one of these hard folks who think that God's jealousy is like ours, that He hates us to love any one else but Him; I think He knows that if we feel right we will love Him best, but He doesn't begrudge the love we give any body else. And I don't think that when He takes away from the troubles of us folks an innocent little child and makes it a pure angel in Heaven, that He means allers to punish our sins. No, not at all. Now, when my old man died, the minister we had here then, says he, 'Now, Mrs. Whitham, the Lord's hand is in this, it is a chastisement from Him, and you oughter profit by it and humble yourself.' Says I, 'Mr. Colton, I believe, too, that the Lord's hand is in it; but do you suppose He thought o' my sins when my good old man was sitting alongside o' me? No, sir; He took him home to reward him, not to punish me,' says I. Of course I didn't mean we ought not to take the lesson to heart, and try and live so that we can die peaceably like my old man did. But I think it a hard doctrine, an' not according to the gospel John preached. I don't know as much about Paul, for he's sometimes hard and sometimes just as tender as a woman; but no matter what John is talking about, love allers fits in somehow; an', as I was saying, it is a pretty hard thing to say that He would take away a man as good an' as useful as Mister Whitham to punish an old soul like me. Bless my heart, there are easier an' better ways than that."

"But you don't think He will take away my little boy because I love him?"

"Of course not; isn't that the very thing I have been saying? But I tell you, ma'am, but perhaps you know it," glancing at her black dress, "that it's a great drawing to Heaven to have somebody there you love very much. Why, before my old man died I used to think in a flighty kind o' way of going to Heaven of the angels and Abraham, and people I had only read of; but now it's like going home for I know he's waiting for me, and won't he be glad when I get there! I often wake up in the night an' think he's saying, like he used to, 'Sarah, why don't you hurry?'"

Her sister had been standing behind Mrs. Whitham's chair, going through a violent pantomime for some moments without attracting Mrs. Whitham's notice, but at last, by an energetic clearing of the throat, she succeeded in making her look toward her, and was answered by an emphatic nod of the head. So, two plates, a cup, and a little mug were added to the table, the tea was made, and then Martha, turning to Abby, said—

"Now, take off your bonnet, ma'am, and sit up and take a cup of tea with us."

"Oh, no, I could not think of troubling thee so much, and it is getting late. Come Harry."

"No, no," said Mrs. Whitham; "you can't take that child out without something to eat, an' yourself pale an' tired; we're not Turks nor heathen here. Come, take off your bonnet; a cup of tea will cheer you up, and you can go twice as fast. Martha, take off her things and lay them on the settee. Come, draw up, ma'am."

Abby looked around in a half helpless way, but Martha already had hold of her bonnet-strings, so she submitted, and taking off Harry's cap, she led him to the table. She could neither speak nor swallow for some moments, she was so choked by her tears. The two old ladies significantly looked at each other, but said nothing.

Harry had hardly finished his supper before he began to rub his eyes, and half crying, said—

"Me's so sleepy, mamma."

"You must not go to sleep, darling; we must go out again, but you shall soon be in bed."

"In bed!" Under the stars! The birds had shelter, but her little boy was homeless!

"Will you excuse me if I leave now? I am afraid it will be very late before we get to a hotel."

"Just wait a minute," said Mrs. Whitham, slowly rising, and going heavily into the next room. "Come in here, Martha, I want you."

In a few minutes they came out.

"Now, ma'am, you mustn't think of going out to-night; it will be dark night before you get to Maginnis's, and when you do, ten chances to one you find them all drunk and playing cards."

"I am more obliged to you than you can guess, but I really cannot impose on you so much."

"Don't fret about that; you're not agoing to impose on us. Come, now, there's a bed all ready up stairs where you can put your child right away."

Abby could not hesitate—she lifted Harry in her arms, and thus mutely assented. Martha understood her, and without a word opened a door, and led the way up a narrow pair of stairs.

After Harry had fallen asleep Abby sat by him for some time, but finally reluctantly arose to go down stairs, turning back several times to be certain he was sleeping well. She found the table cleared, Mrs. Whitham knitting, Martha darning, the cat lay purring in the chair again. Both the old women smiled as she came in.

"Is he asleep?" said Martha.

"Oh, yes, soundly; poor little fellow, he has run about so much to-day that he is tired."

"He's as pretty and bright-eyed child as I ever saw, but he doesn't talk much."

"No, he is a very quiet child; not a bad-tempered one, though. He is very good, and very amiable."

"Yes, I think so; he must be a great comfort to you."

"He is all I have," replied Abby, her eyes filling with tears.

"Is your husband dead?" asked Mrs. Whitham.

"I lost him some time ago—he was a soldier."

"Oh, dear, dear, that's very bad; but I do not think hardly of soldiers, poor fellows, they have so much to bear; and they say them Mexicans are real savages, scalping our men, and being very barbarous. Was your husband killed?"

"No, ma'am." Abby's conscience rebuked her so constantly for her many forced falsehoods, that she tried to compromise when she could by equivocation.

"Died of disease, then? Might I ask his name?"

Abby resolved to give a different name whenever she could, to prevent being traced in that way, so she answered—

"Henry Armstead."

"Armstead! A family of Armsteads lived at Mayland's creek; are you related to them?"

Indeed, Abby remembered the Armstead family very well; how unfortunate not to have thought of them sooner.

"No, ma'am; my husband had no relations in this part of the country."

Before they went to bed Abby had told them a story of herself—that she had lost her husband in the Mexican war, she never [illegible] friends in New York, but her baggage had been stolen, and she was almost destitute. But she had friends about eleven miles from there, where she was going. Had they been less credulous, they would have found incoherencies in Abby's story; but they believed her implicitly, and pitied her so much that they resolved the next morning to ask her to stay a few days with them, and write to her friends to come for her; "for," said Mrs. Whitham, "she needs looking after with those timid ways and wild eyes of hers, to say nothing of her little boy."

CHAPTER XVI.

But helpless as one blind and dumb,
Stood she; there oped no door of flight;
She had no frown her grief to fight;
There blew no wind her pain to numb.
[*J. A. Dorgan.*

Abby staid with the two old women for several days. It was very peaceful and quiet there. Harry played around the door and in the garden to his heart's content. Abby began to [illegible] glow came back to her cheek; her eyes grew softer, her manner lost some of its watchful suspiciousness, and she charmed Mrs. Whitham and Martha with her old frank, winning ways. They were delighted to have her with them, and would willingly have kept her as long as she would stay. She saw no one; Mrs. Savage was so busy she rarely visited her mother, and there were no other neighbors.

It was on a pleasant, sunny morning that her peace was disturbed, and she was driven forth, like Hagar, into the wilderness again. Harry was out in the garden; Abby sat near him under an apple tree, sewing, and dreaming of pleasant things in her old, girlish way. She was aroused from her reveries by the sound of a horse and wagon coming up the lane. She listened; it stopped by the gate, and a man got out. Mrs. Whitham heard it also, for Abby heard her call to Martha that some one was coming in the gate. Abby sat still; they could not see her from the kitchen window. But she heard the man's voice, and her heart leaped in terror—it was Samuel! She would have run off, but she could not pass the window without being seen. What should she do?—what should she do? As she stood irresolute, she heard Martha say, "Where have you been, Mr. Holmes?"

"To the village. John Lambert said there was a letter there for Benjamin, so I thought I would come after it. We hardly ever get a letter from that office, and I thought I'd stop in and see how thee two were."

"We are very glad——"

Abby could not hear what else Mrs. Whitham said, nor Samuel's reply, so she crept close to the window, under the lilac bushes, keeping a close watch on Harry, and listened.

"No, not many," she heard Samuel say; "and they never write to us; we sometimes get a letter from my sister Abigail, but this is in a man's hand, but it's from the city where she is."

"Your sister is married, I think."

Oh, Heaven! the blood started from Abby's hands as she clenched them—could they talk of nothing but *her?*

"Yes, she's married; she married a very rich man from Pennsylvania."

"And she lives there?"

"Yes, generally; but her husband is in the army, and she has to follow him pretty often."

"Poor thing, I allers feel sorry for a soldier's wife; they have a hard time; he's here, an' he's there, and they get a letter and he says he is well and resting, an' maybe before they get the letter he's been in a battle, an' maybe shot. We've got the widow of a soldier here—a pretty, young thing, too, with her child. He was killed in Mexico, but she's shy about talking about him; I reckon her heart's sore yet. She came here late one evenin', an' we've made her stay awhile, she was so fagged out; we've been pressing her to write to her folks to come here for her, but she hasn't done it yet. Martha thinks they aint good to her, an' she don't like to go there. They're her husband's people, I think, for they can't be her own, from all I can gather."

Abby knew how Samuel looked as he [illegible] his old listless way, his hat in [illegible] hanging down between his knees.

"Thee says she is here?"

"Yes, she's in the garden; maybe she'd like to come in and see you. Martha, suppose you ask her."

At this Abby hastily fled, picking up Harry as she went, and never stopping until she reached the extreme end of the garden. The child thought it fine play, and laughed and clapped his hands in glee.

"Mrs. Armstead, Mrs. Armstead," she heard Martha calling; but she did not answer. She caught glimpses of her as she went looking through the garden, but carefully eluded her, until Martha, baffled and wondering, returned to the house. Then Abby sat down. There could be no doubt the letter was from Mrs. Reynolds. Her flight would be noised about, and she would be found. She must leave, but it would not do to go clandestinely; she must leave openly, or the two old ladies would suspect her.

With the sly cunning insanity always [illegible] Abby formed her plans and executed [illegible]. It was only on the one subject, the [illegible] of losing her child, that her insanity was manifest; this strangers rarely touched on, and except for her vivid, wandering eyes, she would have been entirely unsuspected.

Mrs. Whitham and Martha lamented in loud tones her departure, but Abby was firm, the danger was too great for her to yield to the temptation of staying. She told them it had been too sweet and quiet a place of rest not to regret leaving it, but she felt it her duty not to delay any longer; her friends would think very hard of her. As to the walk, she would not wish them to send for her; she would go on that afternoon, reach a tavern before night where she could stay, and the next day she would be with her friends.

It was very repugnant to the old ladies' notions of propriety for a young woman like Abby to be walking through the country with her little boy, and they earnestly tried to dissuade her, even pressing her to let them pay her fare on the stage, which would pass within a mile of the place she had said she was going. But it also passed close by Benjamin's house, through the town where she might meet some one who knew her; neither would it do for her to take that road, and perhaps put the Reynolds on her track. She yielded as far as to stay to dinner, and willingly let Martha put up a lunch for Harry, as she knew it most probably would have to be their supper.

About one o'clock she left them, Martha and even Mrs. Whitham following her to the gate. She could not hide her tears as they parted, but went sobbing up the lane, leading little Harry.

The two tender-hearted women hardly dared to look at each other, their eyes were so brimmed over with tears. At length, having watched her until they lost even the fluttering of her frock, they turned to go in. Mrs. Whitham paused and looked at their garden, their quiet shaded house, and sighed:

"Poor girl! I'm thinkin' they must be hard people she is goin' to, she is so afraid of 'em. Dear, dear, there's trouble upon trouble in this world; if you shake your own off your shoulders it's only to make room for somebody else's. It seems as if a tender young thing like she is ought to be taken care of a while instead of that she's flung out the nest all in a shiver."

If they had known Abby's friendless, penniless condition, her mental hallucinations, her utter objectless wanderings, seeking only a safe hiding-place, a refuge where there was none, they would have forced her back, have kept her from pure horror.

The afternoon was a long, dreary blank to Abby; she had no object, she wandered through the lanes, over the fields, deep into the woods, heeding only Harry's tired steps and carrying him against her aching heart until she longed to lie down and die. Night drew on; she was in the woods; Harry cried for his supper, she had forgotten the lunch until then; she put her hand in her pocket and drew it out, then she sat down on a fallen tree and fed him. He pressed little pieces of the bread against her lips, but she would not eat, she must save enough for his breakfast. After he had eaten his simple little supper, she carefully wrapped [illegible] sigh, arose. She went on a little way, and then kneeled down and prayed that God would take Harry and her out of the world, take them home to Him. In her mind was no thought of voluntary death, but she weeping bitterly prayed for it. What could she do on earth? Oh, she was so miserable, so desolate, abandoned, despised! Henry would never, never own her again, never forgive her. Night drew on; it became dim, dark. She lay down on the grass; she flung herself in desperation under the trees, it was so dark, so lonely—alone with the horrors of the whispering woods! Every dim and shaking branch waved a menace to her, the wind howled as it passed her, she was afraid to move, she dared not stand still, she dared not cry for help, and her silence was more awful than any thunder. The crackling of the branches as she trod on them, the rustling dead leaves frightened her. She was afraid Harry would die in his sleep, and in the darkness she dared not awaken him; she could barely carry him on one aching arm, but she had to keep one free for safety. She did not know which way to move, it was so dark. She tripped, fell, and Harry awoke with a loud cry that made her jump up and fly with him struggling, screaming in her arms; the echoes caught up the cries and shouted them after her; the trees repeated them; the birds flapped their wings in her face as they flew by; she thought she heard wolves, wild beasts after her; she flew on, her bonnet falling back, her long, light hair streaming out, her child, panting, sobbing, too frightened to scream again, pressed close against her; on over the breaking branches, ankle-deep in hollows piled up with dead leaves, dashing against trees, one hand out to guide her on, her lips parted, she flew on, out of the wood, creeping under fences, trampling down vines, stumbling over them, anywhere, anywhere to leave horror behind her. A dog flew by, she followed on; she turned in among trees, up a smooth path; a light struck on her dilated eyes; she looked up, she was in front of a house; dim, dark, closed to her, it stood up before her. In an upper window a faint light gleamed. Here, at least, was humanity. A small porch was built over a door; she crept to it, every limb trembling; pale, exhausted, she sank on the lower step. Here she could still see the light. She laid her child on her knees; she could see his eyes, open, fixed; he was wet with cold perspiration; she drew the shawl from her own chilled shoulders, and wrapped him closely in it. He neither moaned nor moved; she held her ear down close to him, he was alive—that was enough, only so that he was alive! The night was cold, the wind swept around the corner of the house against her, it touched with icy finger her damp, cold shoulders; she softly stole up on the top step, and drawing up her knees, crouched within the shelter of the door. She could hear people moving in the house. Once she thought she heard some one sobbing; then she fell asleep, her head leaning against the door, her child on her bosom, nothing over her thin dress, her bonnet lying by her; she dreamed dull, hard dreams; when she awakened the early dawn was breaking; she could dimly see the outline of a barn, a poultry yard. She was very, very cold; her limbs were numb; she could hardly stand up. Harry was asleep, his cheeks were hot, and he slightly moaned. She heard some one walking; a window shutter on the first floor was thrown open; she heard a murmur of voices, and then all was silent. She clutched the post of the porch, and tried to stretch her limbs out of their stiffness; the exertion made a sharp pain dart through her, and scarce suppressing her groans, she sank on a bench. Then she heard some one cry out in agony. She listened. "Oh, my child, my baby! Oh, Heaven! my baby!" She stole softly to the window and looked in. It was a large, dim room, a lamp burned low on the mantel, but in the middle of the room, on a table, stood a little black coffin; by it, kneeling on the floor, was a woman, weeping, clenching her hands, rebelling, and beseeching. She arose up, leaned over the coffin, kissed the corpse, and weeping rushed from the room. In the side of the room was a door, leading by a few steps into the garden. Abby, led by an influence she could not resist, went to it; there was no one in the room, the coffin stood alone; she softly stole in and went up to it; a light cloth was laid over the body. She drew it aside; by the dim, gray light, by the flickering lamp, she saw the dead child. Cold, quiet, composed, the rigid little face gave her no greeting. It was a dark haired little boy, not as large as Harry. No, no, *he* could never lie in that coffin. She leaned over—the crazed woman—and laid her child's flushed cheek against the dead child's. Aroused by the movement Harry cried out. A spring, a shriek, and the mother of the corpse rushed in, frightened. Abby flew away and left them.

CHAPTER XVII.

"She lingers where a ruddy glow
Streams outward through an open shutter,
Giving more bitterness to woe,
More loneness to desertion utter!" [*Lowell.*

It was very different in the woods in the morning. To the chill dews of night had succeeded a sultry day. The wind was asleep, the shadows seemed thin and gray; the sun shone down on the dead leaves, and a dry, dusty smell pervaded the woods. It was near noon. Abby lay under a tree, leaning her head against the trunk. Pain shot through her brows, they seemed sore and bruised, her head swam, a dark mist floated before her eyes, she could not look around without giddiness and pain. She let Harry wander as he chose, she was incapable of attending to him. Her whole body ached, the muscles seemed drawn and sore. She had taken a heavy cold, and she was sick from hunger. Since she had left Mrs. Whitham's not a morsel had passed her lips. She had given all she had to Harry for his breakfast; she had been sorely tempted to share it with him; hunger vainly tried to persuade her there was too much for him. "Too much!" It was a very little bit.

Then she had wandered about trying to find some blackberries, but the bushes were bare. Finally, faint and sick, she had laid down; Harry was very quiet, and finding he could not attract his mother's attention, he laid down across her lap, and silently played with the grass until he fell asleep. It was very silent; she could hear the faint murmur of a brook, the cries of the birds, the occasional voice of a man driving his horse through the distant road, and then sleep came to her, and held her in a long, dreamless trance. When she awakened the sun was high in the heavens, slowly sinking. Her head no longer ached, the dreadful sickness had passed; she felt numb, faint, and weak. Harry was still asleep. Never in his little bed, dressed in fairest muslin, had he looked more lovely than he did now. His face was flushed, his fair hair lay tossed in myriads of soft rings over his head, one little hand was pressed under his rosy cheek, the other loosely held a bunch of fading grass. His white frock was tumbled and stained, his little shoes were worn, his mother leaned over and softly kissed them—dusty and trodden down, they were lovely to her.

Her face was so dry, her eyes so heavy, she felt she must go and bathe them in the brook. She laid the baby softly down, and had almost reached the brook, when she heard a low whistle, and paused. A boy was walking along the margin, switching the ferns with a long, lithe stick; he was going away from her; she kneeled down behind some wild roses, and watched him. He walked on, a stout boy, of perhaps nine years, bare-footed, ruddy, healthy, whistling with a curious drawn-in breath. But, oh joy! just in front of her, not ten yards off, lay his fishing-rod, and by it a little basket, with a napkin loosely laid in. She ran down, he could not see her now; there was a slice, partly eaten, of bread and butter, some scraps of meat, a few ginger cakes; she hastily gathered them up, thrust the cakes in her pocket, and eating the bread and meat, hurried back. When Harry awakened she gave him the cakes. He sat on the ground eating one, his little mouth covered with crumbs, his eyes content, his little feet stuck bravely out. Abby was trying to pin together the numerous splits in his hat, when she heard some one running, and in a moment the boy burst in on them.

He started back surprised when he saw them, then coolly turned to Harry.

"It's you who took my cake."

The child looked at him, dropped the cake, and stood up.

"What'd thee do it for?"

Abby stepped forward. "I took it; he was very hungry; I found it, and thought some one had left it."

"Likely story! Did thee think some one had left the fishing-pole; why didn't you take it?"

"You are a hard-hearted boy; the child was very hungry; you ought to be ashamed of yourself to begrudge it to him."

"I don't begrudge it; if thee'd asked civilly for it I would have given it all to you, but it's mean to prowl about the woods and steal a fellow's lunch."

Abby started forward, and gave him one tingling blow on the cheek. "There!"

The boy looked half-savagely, half-fearfully at her, sprung forward, but frightened by her angry face, gave a long howl, clapped his hand to his cheek, and ran screaming away.

Abby could not face the horrors of another night in the woods, and long before dark started to find shelter. As she walked along the trees, the scene became more familiar to her; she passed a broken down arbor, she surely knew that; she remembered how it looked, with rustic branches twined together, a wild rose and a grape-vine climbing over it. The grape-vine was still there, and had half covered the ruin with heavy leaves and bunches of grapes. She certainly knew the place. If she turned between those oaks she would come to the brook and the stepping-stones. Yes, there

[CONTINUED ON THE EIGHTH PAGE.]

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THE MILITARY HISTORY OF THE PAST YEAR.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 19.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., NOV. 16, 1863.

SIR: In compliance with your orders, I submit the following summary of military operations during the last annual report.

Department of West Virginia and Army of the Potomac.

When your predecessor, General McClellan, was assigned, on the 24 of November, to the command of the Army of the Potomac, the whole side of the Potomac, under arms, was from Harper's Ferry to a point nearly at the mouth of the Rappahannock. Your instructions to General McClellan, to advance in the direction of the enemy, at the earliest moment, he has fully and faithfully obeyed.

Upon the Potomac, the Army, General Burnside, prepared to cross at four points, viz: Harper's Ferry, General Sumner, at Berlin, General Franklin, at Pontoon Bridge, opposite Fredericksburg, and General Hooker, at Kelly's Ford, on the Rappahannock, and Rappahannock Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and to move down the Rappahannock, on the enemy's rear, at Fredericksburg, by the Richmond road, and on the Aquia Creek or Stoney Point, as the exigency of the case may require, and to attack the enemy, if advantageous, or to force him to retreat from his present base, and to cut him off from Richmond, and to fight a battle, if required, on the Fredericksburg line of the Rappahannock.

Preparatory to this, it was necessary to fix Pontoons, and bridge the Rappahannock, at Fredericksburg, while a small force should occupy the heights of Fredericksburg, while a small force should occupy the heights of Fredericksburg, to keep the enemy from the bridge, the materials for which were nearly ready at Aquia Creek, and Stoney Point, and the official approval of the engineer, that the Pontoon's instructions, with the assent was obtained, that the bridge could be laid, in spite of the enemy's fire, on the most favorable ground, in the rear of Fredericksburg, and, on receiving his assent, orders were given, for the Pontoons, to be sent, from Aquia Creek, to General Burnside, and, the Pontoons, were at the Potomac, in Franklin's rear, ready for the bridge, and, but that of another Pontoon, which was in position with the Engineers.

Meanwhile, in accordance, the testimony of Gen. Burnside, before the Congressional Committee, the Counsel of the War, that he was "thoroughly satisfied, that the movement, of the Rappahannock, from Warrenton to Fredericksburg, was approved, by the authorities in Washington, and that he expected, to be reinforced, by the Army of the Potomac, and, that, with reinforcements, he was confident, of success, the first point, that plan was never approved, but, on the contrary, was disapproved, by the President, and, he could not possibly have expected, the means and positions to be placed at his disposal, for carrying, the plan, into effect, and, that, he was, at the time, of the battle, of Fredericksburg, under, and, at, the Rappahannock, to Fredericksburg.

The movement, of the Army, of the Potomac, from, the position, to the, right, of the, Rappahannock, to the North, to the, Rappahannock, to the North, to the, Rappahannock, to the North, Lee's army, to the, Rappahannock, to the North, Lee's army, to the, Rappahannock, to the North, Lee's army

believed that the enemy will concentrate to give him battle, and you must be there to help him.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Major Gen. Burnside, Knoxville.

In addition to General Burnside's general instructions, a number of despatches of the same purport as the above were sent to him.

Generals Schofield and Pope were directed to send forward to the Tennessee line every available man in their departments, and the commanding officers in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky, were ordered to make every possible exertion to secure General Rosecrans' line of communication. General Meade was urged to attack General Lee's army while in its present reduced condition, or at least prevent him from sending off any more detachments. It seemed useless to send any more troops into East Tennessee and Georgia, on account of the impossibility of supplying them in a country which the enemy had nearly exhausted.

General Burnside's army was on short rations, and that of the Cumberland inadequately supplied.

General Rosecrans had complained of his inadequate cavalry force, but his stables were overcrowded with animals, and the horses of his cavalry, artillery, and trains were dying in numbers for want of forage.

As three separate armies were now to operate in the same field it seemed necessary to have a single commander in order to secure a more perfect co-operation than had been obtained with the separate commands of Burnside and Rosecrans.

General Grant, by his distinguished services and his superior rank to all the other generals in the West, seemed entitled to this general command. But unfortunately he was at this time in New Orleans, and unable to take the field. Moreover, there was no telegraphic communication with him, and the despatches of the 13th, directed to him and General Sherman, did not reach them until some days after their dates, thus delaying the movements of General Grant's forces from Vicksburg.

General Hurlbut, however, had moved the troops of his own corps, then in East Tennessee, with commendable promptness.

These were to be replaced by reinforcements from Steele's corps, in Arkansas, which also formed a part of Grant's army.

Hearing nothing from General Grant, or from General Sherman's corps, at Vicksburg, it was determined, on ...

...

... difficulty of storming his entrenchments the battle of Chattanooga must be regarded as one of the most remarkable in history. Not only did the officers and men exhibit great skill and daring in their operations on the field, but the highest praise is also due the Commanding General for his admirable dispositions for dislodging the enemy from a position apparently impregnable. Moreover, by turning his right flank, and throwing him back upon Ringgold and Dalton, Sherman's forces were interposed between Bragg and Longstreet, so as to prevent any possibility of their forming a junction.

Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing is reported at about 4,000. We captured about 6,000 prisoners, besides the wounded left in our hands, 42 pieces of artillery, 5,000 or 6,000 small arms, and a large train. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded is not known.

While Generals Thomas and Hooker pushed Bragg's army into Georgia, General Sherman, with his own and General Granger's forces, was sent into East Tennessee to prevent the return of Longstreet, and to relieve General Burnside, who was then besieged in Knoxville. We have reliable information that General Sherman has successfully accomplished his object, and that Longstreet is in full retreat towards Virginia, but no details have been received in regard to Sherman's operations since he crossed the Hiawassee river. Of Burnside's defence of Knoxville it is only known that every attack of the enemy on that place was successfully repulsed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

In submitting to the consideration of Congress the report on the state of the finances, required of him by law at the commencement of each session, the Secretary of the Treasury has much satisfaction in being able to say, in general, that the operations of the Department entrusted to his charge have been attended, during the last fiscal year, by a greater measure of success than he ventured to anticipate at its beginning.

At the beginning of that year all demands on the treasury had indeed been discharged, and there remained a balance to the credit of the Treasurer of $13,043,546 81. But the large disbursements, constantly demanded by military and naval operations, reduced, by comparison, this seemingly considerable balance to almost inconsiderable proportions, and the practical operations of the restrictive provisions of the acts authorizing the negotiation of the bonds known as five-twenties, the most important loan acts not already fully availed of, made new negotiations for adequate amounts and on admissible terms quite impracticable. The reverses which befel our arms in June, July, and August, increased the difficulties of the situation, so that, though the Secretary was enabled under existing legislation to provide largely for the increasing disbursements, there remained necessarily unpaid, on the first day of the last session of Congress, requisitions on the treasury chiefly from the War and Navy Departments, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of $48,394,675 80.

To provide for these requisitions and for current demands, Congress, on the 17th of January, 1863, authorized an additional issue of United States notes to the amount of one hundred millions of dollars; but did not reach ...

...

For the civil service ...

For pensions and Indians ...

For War Department ...

For Navy Department ...

For interest on public debt ...

For interest on public debt	[illegible],881,608 01	
		$923,621,027 96
Making a total aggregate of actual and estimated expenditures of		$1,099,731,960 42
But as these estimates include all unexpended balances of appropriations from former years, they are necessarily much too large, and there may be safely deducted from their aggregate, as likely to remain unexpended at the close of the fiscal year, the sum of		$350,000,000 00
Leaving the total actual and estimated expenditures for 1864		$749,731,960 42
The total of expenditures being deducted from the total of receipts, there will be an estimated balance on the 30th of June, 1864, of		$5,898,659 93
From this statement it appears that the total receipts required for the probable disbursements of the year, and including estimated balance at its close will amount to		$756,668,600 35
Of which there have been provided and applied during the first quarter		176,110,032 46
Leaving to be provided		$579,457,667 89
Of which it is estimated there will be received from ordinary sources during the three other quarters		115,300,000 00
Leaving yet to be provided by loans		$464,157,667 89

The amount of debt created during the quarter is ascertained by deducting from the total expenditures $176,110,032 46, the aggregate of ordinary receipts and balance from last year, amounting together to $46,268,600 35, which gives as the increase of debt $129,842,432 11. To this sum, if there be added the sum yet to be provided by loans, $464,157,667 89, the result will be $594,000,000. From which, if there be deducted the estimated balance on the 1st of July, 1864, $5,898,659 93, the remainder will be $588,101,340 07, and will represent the total increase, on the basis of these estimates, of ... year. The debt on the 1st of July ... 181 37; to which if this estimated ... total debt on the 1st of July ... 641 44, instead of $1,744,685,068 ... report of last December.

It is not certain, or perhaps ... expenditures or actual debt will ... now estimated. Indeed, if the ... quarter, $176,110,032 46, and ... $40,959,456 14 for the same ... standard, the total expenditures ... $704,443,722 84, and the total re... these receipts, if the balance ... $5,329,044 21, be added, it will ... resources $169,... and the total expenditures ... from the total expenditures ... to be provided by loans during ... This sum will, therefore, be ... crease of debt for the year ... ing on the 1st of July, 1863 ... on the 30th of June, 1864 ...

It is not impossible that ... war, and economy in every ...

...

... nary expenses of the Government in times of peace, the entire interest on the public debt, and a gradually increasing fund for the redemption of the principal, was indispensable. It was not important, as it seemed highly probable that the war would be speedily brought to a successful close, that taxation should largely exceed the ordinary expenses and the interest. On the contrary, it seemed wise to obtain the means for nearly the whole of the extraordinary expenditures by loans, and thus avoid the necessity of any considerable increase of the burdens of the people at a time when the sudden outbreak of the rebellion had deranged their business, and greatly diminished their incomes.

The financial administration of the first year after the outbreak of the rebellion was conducted upon these ideas. The acts of Congress at the extra session of July, 1861, were framed with the intention of securing the full amount of revenue demanded, but receipts disappointed expectation, and it became obvious that a much larger proportion of the means needed for the fiscal year 1862, than the measures adopted would allow, must be derived from loans.

When, therefore, Congress assembled for the session on the first Monday of December, 1861, the Secretary directed attention to the necessity of increased taxation. The responsibility was promptly assumed by Congress. The internal revenue law was enacted, and the modifications of the tariff act were made that ... provision for the desired objects was now supplied ... been certainly secured. It was not expected that the influence of this legislation would ... results of the then current year. Nor did ... The total receipts from ordinary sources ... that year, June 30, 1862, were insufficient ... ments expected to be made from them ... $1,835,720 76, while the disbursements for ... vice, for Pensions and Indians, and for ... $37,701,801 11; leaving only $14,233,919 ... and Navy Departments, the expenditures ... the last year of peace had been $27,... nothing at all for extraordinary expenditures ... fund.

In his report at the December session ... ry, considering this deficiency and ... rectness of the estimate of $150,000,000 ... receipts from internal duties, and taking ... penses of the War and Navy Departments ...

...

[illegible]

grades have generally been diligent and faithful in the discharge of their several duties. A few of subordinate grade have proved incompetent or unworthy, and have been dismissed; and the same measure will be promptly applied to all, of whatever grade, to whom public duty may require its application.

By an order of the Secretary of War issued on the last of October last, the care of abandoned plantations and other real estate has been devolved upon the supervising agents who have been instructed to accept the charge and use their best endeavors to its execution. The charge of abandoned lands and plantations necessarily carries with it, to some extent, the charge of freedmen.

The whole charge is at present under military sanction only; for the acts of Congress concerning abandoned property relate exclusively to personalty. The order is of too recent date to allow receipt of reports concerning its practical effects. It is only very clear that some system should be adopted and steadily pursued which will best serve the great objects of restoring tranquillity, order, and prosperity to the States and parts of States in which the national authority is or may be re-established, and at the same time securing the rights and welfare of the loyal and enfranchised people. To these results the labors of the Commissioners of Direct Taxes, as well as judicial action under the acts relating to confiscation, must largely contribute. Already, under the sales for direct taxes in South Carolina, considerable properties divided into small tracts have passed into loyal possession, and are cultivated successfully by the labor of freedmen. In this connection the Secretary asks permission to repeat a suggestion heretofore made, that the proceeds of cotton raised by the freedmen before emancipation, and collected from those properties, should be applied in some judicious way for the benefit of those who raised it. The whole subject will doubtless command the attentive consideration of Congress.

The important and responsible duty of securing and keeping, under the direction of the President and War Department, commutation money from drafted citizens, has been assumed by the collectors of internal revenue, at the instance of the Secretary of War. In the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, this money should be paid directly into the Treasury, and drawn out upon requisitions for the purposes to which it is appropriated by Congress. The Secretary of War thought, however, that the other mode of collection and disbursement would be less burdensome to drafted men and more convenient for the payment of substitutes. His wishes were promptly complied with, and the whole matter is now submitted to Congress.

Under a resolution of the Senate, adopted on the 12th of March last, the Secretary has taken measures for the preparation of the fullest statement possible, with existing means of information, of the foreign and domestic commerce of the United States, including that of the Pacific coast. The learning and ability of the gentlemen employed in this work warrant the expectation that a very instructive account will be obtained of the condition and prospects of our foreign commerce from and to the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, as well as overland, northward and southward, and of our internal and inter-State commerce, including the trade between loyal and rebel States, and between the bread producing and gold and silver producing districts of our country. The materials for a proper statement of this internal commerce must be sought in reports of State commissioners of statistics, of boards of trade, of railroad and canal companies, and occasional or periodical publications relating to trade and business. This is a department of statistics comparatively new and difficult of exploration, but no pains will be spared in the search, in the hope of being able to submit to Congress a result of no insignificant value to the business community and to those charged with the duties of legislation and administration, which will itself suggest the action "necessary to enlarge and protect the important interests involved."

Under the sanction of the acts relating to the subject, the Secretary has taken measures for preparing and printing fractional currency bonds and notes in the Treasury Department with a degree of success which already assures decided economical advantages, and warrants the expectation of satisfactory results.

The Secretary has already invited attention to the reports of the Register, the Comptrollers, and the several Auditors.

The Report on Commerce and Navigation for the fiscal year 1862, prepared in the Register's office, has been greatly delayed by causes explained in his report. The same Report for the fiscal year 1863 is also nearly ready, and will be sent to Congress within the next month. Its important information will be found much better classified and arranged, and much more clearly stated, and therefore much more acceptable for use than heretofore. The Secretary suggests that it will promote the interests of commerce and expedite future reports if provision be made for the monthly, or at least semi-annual, publication of the returns of imports and exports.

The suggestion of the Second Comptroller that the salaries in the offices of the Comptrollers should be higher than those in the Auditors, and that promotion should take place from the latter to the former is respectfully commended to legislative consideration. If sanctioned by law, it will doubtless promote accuracy and promptitude in the revision of accounts.

The vast expenditures of the war, in life and treasure, have devolved unexpected labors on the Auditors' Bureaus, and especially those of the Second and Third Auditors; and the difficulties attendant on the organization of a proper force for the settlement of the suddenly accumulated accounts, have caused some delays, which the most strenuous efforts have been made, in vain, to avoid. It is hoped, however, that the accumulation will now be arrested and henceforth steadily reduced. The Secretary respectfully suggests that some provision be made by which officers of the Department may be enabled to attend the armies and collect information, and especially in regard to the wounded, the missing, and the killed, which will facilitate the prompt settlement of the claims made in behalf of destitute families, and widows and orphans.

The Report of the Solicitor will exhibit the action of that officer in the investigation of frauds perpetrated by certain persons formerly employed in the New York custom house. The legislation of last session, the prompt dismissal of the guilty parties yet remaining in office, and the measures of prevention devised and adopted, will, it is believed, sufficiently protect the Government against the repetition of these or the commission of like frauds.

The Secretary renews the recommendation, submitted in his last report, of the purchase of the Merchants' Exchange in New York, now occupied under lease as a custom house.

The operations of the Coast Survey have been distinguished by even more than usual activity. On the northern coast the work has been vigorously prosecuted, notwithstanding the existence of the war; while, in compliance with applications from military and naval commanders, parties have been detailed for work on the Southern coast, on the rivers of the interior, and, indeed, wherever their services could be made available. From these labors, of an importance cordially acknowledged by the officers to whom they have been rendered, the value of the survey, and the merits of those by whom it is conducted, receive fresh illustration.

During last summer a number of rebels ran into Portland harbor in the night and seized the revenue cutter lying there, its commanding officer being sick on shore, and a portion of the crew absent on leave. They succeeded in leaving the harbor unobserved; but early in the morning the Collector of the Port, hearing of the affair, took instant measures for pursuit by chartering two passenger steamers, arming them with whatever could be most promptly obtained, and providing the necessary force of volunteers, citizens and soldiers. In a few hours the rebels had been compelled to abandon their prize, after setting her on fire, and being themselves taken prisoners. The value of this capture can best be estimated by the damage inflicted on commerce by the same rebels in the Tacony, a vessel every way inferior to the one they had seized. The Secretary deeply regrets that the Collector no longer lives to read this acknowledgement of his prompt, energetic, and judicious action.

The Report of the Board of Supervising Inspectors of steam vessels, to whose supervision Congress has wisely committed the employment of steam in water transportation, is herewith transmitted. The importance of its action may be inferred from the simple statement that there have been inspected during the past year 953 steam vessels, valued at [illegible], with an aggregate tonnage of [illegible] tons, which have carried, for shorter or longer distances, 6,420,000 passengers. The Secretary invites attention to the suggestion of a safe system of signals, by sounds and lights adapted to the use of steam vessels, whether in the merchant or national service; and which may, perhaps, be extended so as to embrace sailing vessels also. Such signals, understood by all, might avert many disasters and be the means of many benefits, without at all interfering with any peculiar system required for special communication between vessels of the navy.

The Secretary renews the recommendation of his last report, that authority be given to sell the buildings erected, but not needed or used, for hospitals, and also such other buildings as are unoccupied or not required for the objects of their intended purposes.

The operations under the charge of the Light-house Bureau have been satisfactorily prosecuted during the year. The Cape Charles light-house, at the entrance of Chesapeake bay, was destroyed by guerillas in August last. Its reconstruction is of great importance to commerce, and should be immediately authorized and provided for.

The light-house system of the United States, unlike those of commercial nations generally, is maintained wholly at our own cost. The Secretary suggests the expediency of providing for its support and enlargement hereafter, so far as treaty stipulations will permit, by a small duty on tonnage for light-house purposes. The benefits of the system accrue to foreign as well as to American commerce, and its burdens should be apportioned accordingly.

In this report, the Secretary necessarily omits many things; but he cannot omit the expression of his cordial appreciation of the zeal, intelligence, and fidelity which the officers of the Department generally have brought to the discharge of their several duties. To their labors he sensibly feels and gratefully acknowledges that he is indebted, in great part, for the measure of success which has attended his administration.

Still less could he excuse himself should he omit to say how distinctly he recognizes, on looking back through the year, the tokens of that Divine Providence which has led our country through perils of every kind. How steadily and grandly, under that benignant care, the Great Republic has moved on. How confidently may we trust its future, to the same sacred guidance.

S. P. CHASE,
Secretary of the Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 10, 1863.

Gen. Meade on his Late Movement.

The following is an extract from a letter of Gen. Meade to a friend in Newark, New Jersey, written just before the last movement of the Army of the Potomac:

"I am fully aware of the great anxiety in the public mind that something should be done. I am in receipt of many letters, some from persons in high positions, telling me I had better have my army destroyed and the country filled up with the bodies of the soldiers than remain inactive. Whilst I do not suffer myself to be influenced by such communications, I am and have been most anxious to effect something, but am determined, at every hazard, not to attempt anything unless my judgment indicates a probability of accomplishing some object commensurate with the destruction of life necessarily involved. I would rather a thousand times be relieved, charged with tardiness or incompetency, than have my conscience burdened with a wanton slaughter, uselessly, of brave men, or with having jeopardized the great cause by doing what I thought wrong."

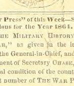
The Revival of the Grade of Lieutenant General.

The following is the bill which Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, will introduce into the House. It is designed to apply to General GRANT:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That the grade of Lieutenant General be, and the same is hereby, revived in the army of the United States, and the President is hereby authorized, whenever he shall deem expedient, to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a Commander of the Army, to be selected during the war from among those officers not below the grade of Major General of the regular army and of volunteers, most distinguished by courage, skill, and genius in their profession, and who, being commissioned as Lieutenant General, may be authorized to command the armies of the United States. The Lieutenant General, appointed as hereinbefore provided, shall be entitled to the pay, allowances, and staff specified in the fifth section of the act approved May 28th, 1798; and also to the allowances described in the sixth section of the act approved August 23d, 1842, granting additional rations to certain officers.

Forney's War Press.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1863.



The "War Press" of this Week—Subscriptions for the Year 1864.

☞ "THE MILITARY HISTORY OF THE PAST YEAR," as given in the interesting Report of the General-in-Chief, and the very able document of Secretary CHASE, showing the financial condition of the country, make the present number of THE WAR PRESS one of much value, and worthy of preservation. In fact, each issue of this journal has much valuable matter, and which is to be found in very few weekly papers, thereby rendering it a welcome visitor to every family into which it may happen to come. As the new year is at hand, the present time is very opportune to send in subscriptions for 1864. Our terms to single subscribers and clubs will be found elsewhere.

The Message of Jefferson Davis.

Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS is forced to make the most out of the past year of war in Virginia. In his review of the war he can find no campaign that can by any means be distorted into a rebel success, excepting that of General LEE. Looking to the West, he beholds nothing but Federal victory. Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Little Rock, Chattanooga, are overwhelming triumphs, which even he, with all his ingenuity and audacity, dare not falsify or undervalue. It is well, then, that he glorifies the successful defence of Charleston, and taunts us with our failure to take Richmond. He rests his declaration of strength upon these negative successes, but can find no affirmative advantage to balance the tremendous gain of the Union. The weakness of the rebellion is admitted by the very boast of its leader; the contemptible boast that all is not yet lost, which means that everything is imperilled. The message of Mr. DAVIS is very fine in invective, but it is finer as an ironical panegyric of his own Administration. What a pitiful record of victory! What a monstrous record of defeat!

Disaster that cannot be denied need not be wholly confessed, and by this truth Mr. DAVIS profits; but how can he hide what is known to all the world—the loss of army after army, of battle after battle, of State after State? the ruin of the rebel finances, the misery of the Southern people? How can he hide their growing apathy to the cause, which is his, not theirs; the universal despondency, and his own terror? He cannot conceal the unconcealable. This message was written by a trembling hand. *There* is no sincerity in its assurance that all will be well, but a terrible earnestness in the declaration that the people must sustain him or see the Confederacy perish. There is the earnestness of a man who fears that he will be deserted, who has already heard himself denounced in the Congress of the rebels as the cause of all the misfortune and suffering of the war. It is the earnest appeal of one who begins to doubt himself and his fate, yet desperately resolves, like Macbeth, to fight on to the last, though Birnam wood should come to Dunsinane, and Macduff be an adversary of woman never born. To us this message is a cry of despair. A sweeter sound could not come to loyal ears.

That part of the message devoted to the foreign relations of the Confederacy acknowledges that European nations are not only ceasing to be neutral, but becoming unfriendly. The British Government Mr. DAVIS accuses of injustice, and is especially bitter because he originally expected great assistance from its action. He depended upon England; and now England has not only deserted the rebel cause, but distinctly asserts that she had never any intention of sustaining it. Having failed to establish treaties with foreign nations, Mr. DAVIS thinks his relations with Europe are now controlled exclusively by international law, and laments that the Confederacy cannot effectively resent French and English injustice. Retaliation, by the declaration of a paper blockade of the United States coast, he cannot recommend, but yet something must be done. He, therefore, suggests that the declaration of Paris that "the neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war," should cease to bind the Confederacy. This is an admirable suggestion, which, if adopted, is certain to hasten the fall of the shrewd statesman who has made it. The rebel leaders are not in a condition to punish European Governments for fancied insults and injuries to the Confederacy. These Governments have in truth given Mr. DAVIS no offence, having simply said: "Before we can recognize the Confederacy as a nation, we must be convinced that it is not a rebellion."

The finances of the rebellion demand the earliest and most earnest attention of its Congress; in this opinion we agree with Mr. DAVIS. Their condition is certainly alarming, when the paper currency is over six hundred millions, and rapidly approximating the value of six hundred millions of ciphers. Mr. DAVIS advocates a compulsory exchange of currency for Confederate bonds; he also insists that taxation be made efficient, and speaks of the general aversion to pay taxes as one cause of the miserable state of the finances. This he confesses, regardless of having previously said that the "spirit of the people is so devoted to the cause, that they are ready to make any necessary contribution." Greatly troubled also because of the failures in repeated attempts to strengthen the army, and the extent of desertion, he also proposes as a remedy conscription without exemption. Here is another illustration of the devotion of the people of the South to the rebellion. Mr. DAVIS also recommends the employment of negroes in the army, and justifies the impressment of provisions for the use of the army, on the ground of absolute necessity. He states that the Government cannot purchase provisions at its own rate of appraisement, and cannot afford to pay the high prices demanded. What a revelation is this of the desperation of the rebel leaders, who make poverty an excuse for robbery, and deliberately tell the sufferers that a compulsory exchange of bonds for currency is the method chosen for their relief! Everywhere we meet the same confession of misfortune. Communication with the States west of the Mississippi is admitted to be almost wholly cut off, and legislation is asked providing for the exercise of temporary authority in that department. A sort of limited viceroyship is to be set up in that department, receiving discretionary powers from Mr. DAVIS himself. Can any one fail to see that this is an acknowledgment of the opening of the Mississippi, and the division of the rebel States?

In speaking of the difficulties which attend the exchange of prisoners, JEFFERSON DAVIS is guilty of direct falsehood. We shall not here argue a matter which is already familiar to the public; it is enough that of the revolting inhumanity, inhuman practices, the unchristian hate, the savage ferocity, the intolerable cruelty, which he charges upon the people of the North, he himself is the hero. This very day we publish the news of his refusal to receive provisions for the Union prisoners in Richmond. It is a refusal which informs the loyal states of the certain starvation of their sons. Too well do we know the condition of those unhappy men at Belle Island to trust to the mercy of their captors. JEFFERSON DAVIS has dared to accuse the loyal people and their Government of every crime known to human nature, while himself authorizing the commission of an outrage unparalleled in the history of war. No further answer to his calumnies need be made. But let it be remembered that, while ABRAHAM LINCOLN was offering magnanimous pardon to the enemies of his country, and appealing to all the generosity of the North in their behalf, their leader was writing this dastardly attack. JEFFERSON DAVIS is well earning scorn in the present and punishment in the future.

The President and the mock-President have spoken; the one to all Americans, the other to those in rebellion only; the one offering pardon and peace, the other insisting upon perpetual war; the one addressing a vast majority of loyal citizens, prosperous and strong, because they have sustained their Government, the other a minority of traitors, and the victims of traitors, who are miserable and weak; the one appealing to the country in behalf of freedom and Union, the other advocating slavery and chaos; the one disclosing the strength of a Government to which attack has only given dignity and power, the other revealing the rottenness upon which the insurrection was begun. Opposite principles were never more forcibly contrasted than in the messages of ABRAHAM LINCOLN and JEFFERSON DAVIS, and the eyes of the world may see in their revelations a spectacle like that of dawn, the stately ascension of the sun of the Union, the gradual declension of the night.

Maximilian at Home.

Notwithstanding the positive assurances, in the *Moniteur*, official organ of the French Government, that the Archduke MAXIMILIAN was making great preparations to proceed to Mexico early in February, it appears that he is devoting himself, as usual, to the performance, at Trieste, of his duties as head of the Austrian admiralty and marine. He is a good sailor, much devoted to his profession, and a hard-working man as regards all its details. Just now, when the leading naval Powers of Europe, taking alarm at the vast preparations of Russia, are increasing their naval armaments and putting their vessels of war and transports in the best condition for service, MAXIMILIAN spends most of his time in the docks and workshops of Trieste, preparing his brother's fleet for possible employment. He appears resolved, at all events, to continue a servant and subject of Austria until he formally is released from his obligations. If he holds to his word, MAXIMILIAN will not quit Austria until civil war ceases in Mexico, and the unanimous voice of the nation calls him to rule over it. He will have to "wait a little longer."

The Washington Chronicle.

We congratulate our contemporary on the change it has just made. It is now enlarged to the full size of THE (daily) PRESS, with an entire suit of new type, and with an increased editorial and reportorial force. The progress and prosperity of *The Chronicle* has shown that Washington can sustain a first-class daily newspaper, equal in power and interest to those of New York and Philadelphia. Though *The Chronicle* is not yet two years old, it has built itself a house costing over $10,000, established a large jobbing office, bought several fast presses, and paid for all these indispensable elements of a leading journal by the legitimate profits of a single year. Commenting on this fact, *The Chronicle* says:

"It will be answered that we have received largely of Government patronage. Not so. Beyond the advertisements of several of the Departments, paid at fixed rates, and given, in nearly every case, to our loyal contemporaries, the *Chronicle's* prosperity is the offspring of the confidence and encouragement of the army and the people. We have toiled hard to make it worthy of this support. We employ seventy persons in its several departments. We have correspondents with every column of the army. Our editorial staff is composed of some of the finest scholars in the country, and our local corps (now increased by able additions) give a daily *epitome* of the transactions in the capital of the country."

A further statement is to the effect that the average daily circulation of *The Chronicle* is fifteen thousand copies, and of the *Sunday Chronicle* seventeen thousand. In this success we may properly feel satisfaction and pride, for we believe our contemporary is right when it attributes its rapid growth to the earnest stand it has made "for the right and for our country, and against rebellion and the wrong."

GENERAL GRANT ON THE CORNER-STONE OF THE REBELLION.—The following extract of a private letter of General Grant to the Hon E. B. Washburne, dated August 13, 1863, sets at rest the question of veracity raised by the *Herald* with Senator Wilson, who gave the substance, without giving the exact language, of it in a recent speech:

"The people of the North need not quarrel over the institution of slavery. What Vice President Stevens acknowledges as the corner-stone of the Confederacy is already knocked out. Slavery is already dead, and cannot be resurrected. It would take a standing army to maintain slavery in the South if we were to make peace to-day guaranteeing to the South all their former constitutional privileges. I never was an Abolitionist, not even what would be called anti-slavery, but I try to judge fairly and honestly, and it became patent to my mind early in the rebellion that the North and South could never live at peace with each other except as one nation, and that without slavery. As anxious as I am to see peace established, I would not, therefore, be willing to see any settlement until this question is forever settled."

LETTERS OF "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1863.

The President's remedy for the "restoration" of the Union has undoubtedly consolidated all the friends of the Government. I have never witnessed a more cordial and enthusiastic unity in any party or combination of men. Those who have been classed as radicals on the slavery question, as well as those who have been denominated conservatives, earnestly accept and endorse it. It was gratifying to watch the effect of the reasoning of the message introductory to the great remedy, "The Proclamation." The difficulty with which the President had to struggle in attempting to reach a reasonable solution of the tremendous questions growing out of the fact that slavery began the war, and that the war could never be happily closed unless slavery is fatally struck or wholly extinguished, could be best realized by observing the intense and almost painful interest with which his argument and closing suggestions were heard. A sense of profound relief seemed to speak from every loyal face; and when those who have the great work of legislating, in some degree, upon the President's recommendations, came to discuss the Message and Proclamation in their social circles, it was most pleasing to note their gratitude to the Chief Magistrate for what he had so nobly and ably done, and their fervent expression of their determination to stand by him to the last. For undoubtedly we have been surrounded by a sea of troubles, in regard to what is called "reconstruction" and "restoration." The boldest have hesitated, and many of our most experienced statesmen have quailed before the task of debating this subject. Some, indeed, have run into wild extremes in consequence of the confusion, and have proposed alternatives far more patriotic than practical; and others have caught at the hope that there was no path to lead the nation out of this labyrinth of furies, or to rescue it from the profound morass of what seemed to be inevitable dissensions. All men looked for a leader to give the word, and with unfaltering hand to apply the key to that mystery from which so many retired in dismay. The President, wisely appreciating the fact that upon him devolved the duty of initiating a policy, spoke the brave word at the right time, and with a modesty only equalled by the dignity of his utterances, invited the country and the country's Congress to consider his counsel. How simple, how true, how humane, and how constitutional his remedy, is perhaps best established by the manner in which publicists and statesmen of heretofore adverse opinions receive it. In this remark I think I may include many who yet call themselves Democrats. The mere partisan will, of course, seek to find flaws in the proclamation, but the patriotic public man will ponder well before assailing a proposition which contains so much that cannot be fairly challenged and so little that can be fairly criticised. What Democrat, for instance, will deny that the leaders of the rebellion should be forever deprived of citizenship, and should be inexorably punished for their treason? Who that claims to be a loyal man will say that the liberated slaves of rebels shall be remanded to bondage? Who will ask that any plan of reconstruction shall be offered to the people of the South by which the patriotic Union pioneers of the South shall be ground to the earth, and probably murdered by the restoration of the rebel fiends in human shape to their former power? But the subject increases on my hands, and I must close in order to catch the mail.

OCCASIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1863.

The heads of the Departments and their respective chiefs of bureaus, civil, naval, and military, have sent to Congress their several reports, to which the striking events of the war have given an extraordinary, and almost a romantic interest. Heretofore, there has been no reading so "dry" to the mass as these same official documents. To thinkers, and writers, and statisticians, and, of course, to legislators and statesmen, these papers have always been edifying and instructive; but even to the most of these the labor of digesting this voluminous matter has been a work rather of duty and necessity than of pleasure. Now, however, a thousand reasons combine to render all the reports of the Departments and bureaus important and interesting to every class and condition. In all the literature of these wonderful and novel times, nothing is at once so intensely interesting, and so crowded with eloquent compensation to the general reader, as these documents. They are the picture and the proof of the gallantry of our army and our navy, of the resources of those not in the armed service, of the kindness of the Government to those who are, and of the miraculous vitality of our institutions. The mother who has a soldier son, the widow who has lost her only stay, the capitalist, the workingman, the historian, the private gentleman, the newly-arrived emigrant, the philanthropist, the brave woman who is giving her time in the hospitals, the men of science, the lawyer, and even the poet who seeks for inspiration, will find in the reports and recommendations of the various heads of Departments material for profound reflection and unspeakable satisfaction.

The message of the President, which is a compend or *résumé* of that which is more lengthily described by his constitutional advisers and their subordinates, will go to Europe as an admonition that a people so able to take care of themselves, and to sustain a war of such formidable dimensions, must be respected by foreign Powers. And when this great paper is succeeded by the accounts of those national stewards—the Secretaries of the Treasury, War, Navy, State, and Interior, and Postmaster General, and Attorney General—they will only be new themes for rejoicing among our friends, and for dismay among our enemies. The loyal journalists and public speakers in the different States should carefully con and select from the message and reports arguments to which there can be no successful reply, appeals which cannot be resisted, and evidences of the justice, integrity, and vigor of the Administration can be epitomized from these fountains of administrative and executive labor. These arguments and these appeals should be thrown into short paragraphs, or dilated upon in lectures and speeches at the various school-houses and public buildings in the cities, towns, and villages of the country. For be it remembered that the Presidential campaign may be said to be opened, and the intellectual food for which the people are hungering should not be withheld from them. It is something to know that this important fact is deeply impressed upon the loyal leagues, and that everywhere, from the mother and parent of these effective auxiliaries of the good cause to the smallest association in the smallest community, there is constant and unwearied work. It is the duty of all good men to keep this spirit alive, and nothing will contribute more to the education of the masses, and to the final and complete success of the Government in the elections of 1864, than to use the plain and convincing information contained in the great papers which have issued from Mr. Lincoln himself and from his constitutional advisers.

OCCASIONAL.

Senator Wilson's Bill to Increase the Bounty.

Senator WILSON'S bill to increase the bounty of volunteers gives to those who shall re-enlist, having served nine months, and having been honorably discharged, or to those who may have less than one year to serve, the sum of four hundred dollars, and three hundred dollars to all others.

It authorizes a premium of twenty-five dollars for the enlistment of veteran, and fifteen dollars for any other volunteers. The bill appropriates twenty millions dollars for such payments. It regulates the pay as follows:

The sergeant-major of each arm of the service	$23
Quartermaster-sergeants of cavalry	23
" " of artillery and infantry	20
First sergeants	23
Sergeants	19
Sappers and miners and pontooniers	34
Corporals	17
Chief bugler of cavalry	23
Bugler	16
Farriers and blacksmiths of cavalry, and artificers of artillery	18
Privates	16
Principal musicians from	14a22

The negro soldiers are to be equipped and paid the same as other soldiers.

All drafts from the militia of the States are to be proportioned everywhere to the number of persons liable to do military duty, taking into account the number previously furnished.

Refusal of the Rebels to Receive Supplies for Union Prisoners.

Another Instance of Their Barbarity.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 13.—The following despatch was received here this morning:

FORT MONROE, Dec. 12, 1863.

To C. C. Fulton, Editor of the Baltimore American:

Please give notice that the Confederate authorities decline receiving any more packages or provisions for the Union prisoners, so that parties interested may refrain from forwarding any more goods to this point.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major General Commanding.

The Rev. Mr. Torrence, who went to City Point with Dr. Clement C. Barclay, of Philadelphia, returned this morning. He had an interview with Captain Hatch, who was sent from Richmond to meet him. He informed him of the above decision of the rebel Government, and gave as the reason therefor, what they alleged to be an imputation of their honor by the press and Government authorities, that they were not delivering the goods forwarded in good faith to the prisoners, and asserted that, of his own knowledge, the officers in the Libby prison, from the immense supplies they had received, could set a table from their stores in hand, equal to any hotel in the United States. He admitted that there had been some irregularities in the supplies at one time, but that the officer who had been guilty of neglecting the prisoners had been promptly removed and punished. As to the bad condition of the prisoners returned to Annapolis, he said that they were extreme cases of consumption and that it was a grave error on the part of the authorities to have allowed such prisoners to return. For the present nothing would be received but letters and enclosures of money, and that Southern money had better be sent.

JEFFERSON DAVIS DENOUNCED IN THE REBEL CONGRESS.

More Shells Thrown Into Charleston.

[From the Richmond papers of Friday.]

THE REBEL CONGRESS—JEFF DAVIS DENOUNCED.

"RICHMOND, Dec. 11.—The Senate yesterday passed a bill prohibiting the employment of substitutes in the army.

"In the rebel Congress, on the 9th, Mr. Foote, of Tennessee, in a speech, said the President had never visited the army without doing injury. His visits had always been followed with disaster, and he charged him with having almost ruined the country.

"Mr. Foote challenged any champion of Jeff Davis to meet him anywhere to discuss his merits. He accused the Commissary General Northrop with having starved the enemy's prisoners, and stealthily placing the Government in a dishonorable position before the world.

"From the 1st to the 26th of last month meat was furnished to the prisoners very irregularly. For twelve days the supply was inadequate to their wants, and for eight days they got none at all. Mr. Foote demanded the removal of Northrop from his position for the honor of the country and the sake of humanity."

GENERAL GILMORE AGAIN SHELLING THE CITY.

FORT MONROE, Dec. 12.—The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 10th and 11th inst. has been received here, containing the following Charleston despatches:

"CHARLESTON, Dec. 9.—This afternoon the enemy opened fire on the city, and threw eight shells into it. Fort Moultrie and batteries on James' Island returned the fire, silencing the enemy. Five buildings were struck, but no person was injured.

"CHARLESTON, Dec. 10.—The enemy shelled the city between 10 and 11 o'clock last night, and 3 and 4 o'clock this morning. Twenty shots were thrown. Our batteries opened heavily upon the enemy during the shelling of the city."

GENERAL BANKS' TEXAS EXPEDITION.

Strong Development of Union Feeling—Two Texas Union Regiments Recruited.

BOSTON, Dec. 15.—The New Orleans correspondent of the *Traveller* writes that the expedition of General Banks to Texas is a glorious success. The Union men are rallying under the standard of General Banks in large numbers.

All that the Texans required was a sufficient force of United States troops to back them up, and they repeatedly said that if an army was sent to assist them they would soon have Texas all right.

They have already proved the truth of their statements, for General Banks has recruited two regiments since he landed in that State, and the work is still going on. The Texans are coming from their places of concealment, and enrolling themselves in the Union army.

The President's Congratulations to Gen. Grant.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 8.—The following order has been issued:

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF MISS., IN THE FIELD, CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Dec. 8, '63.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7.—The general commanding takes great pleasure in publishing to the brave armies under his command the following telegraphic despatch, just received from the President of the United States:

"WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—*Maj. Gen. Grant:* Understanding that your lodgment at Chattanooga and Knoxville is now secure, I wish to tender you, and all under your command, my more than thanks—my profoundest gratitude—for the skill, courage, and perseverance with which you and they, over so great difficulties, have effected that important object. God bless you all!

A. LINCOLN."

By order of Major General U. S. GRANT.
T. S. BOWERS, A. A. G.

THE Richmond papers justify the withdrawal of the permission granted to us to feed our soldiers in their hands, upon the ground that it has subjected the rebel authorities to insult from "a nation of liars." The *Examiner* says the Union officers at the Libby intended to celebrate their captivity by a splendid dinner on the 8th inst., to which members of the rebel Government are invited. This is probably false, and an exaggeration of the fact that our soldiers wished to unite their [illegible] over getting something fit to eat from home.

THE WAR IN VIRGINIA.

BRILLIANT AFFAIR.

Capture of Charles City Court House.

ENTIRE REBEL FORCE TAKEN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The following despatch was received here to-day:

FORTRESS MONROE, Va., Dec 14.—General Wistar, with my approbation, sent out an expedition to Charles City Court House, on the James river, to capture the enemy's force stationed there, and I have the pleasure to forward his report of its complete success. What adds to the brilliancy of the achievement is that it has been accomplished during a terrible storm. B. F. BUTLER, Major Gen'l.

YORKTOWN, Va., Dec. 14, 1863.

TO MAJOR GENERAL BUTLER: I have the satisfaction to announce the complete success of the expedition sent out under Colonel West. All worked in successful combination. Our cavalry carried the enemy's camp, at Charles City C. H., after sharp fighting, the enemy firing from the houses. We captured eight officers and eighty-two enlisted men, being the whole command of three companies, fifty-five horses and three mules, besides many that were shot and left on the ground. The enemy's camp, with equipments, arms, ammunition, and provisions, all thoroughly destroyed.

Our loss is Capt. Gregory, severely wounded, one sergeant and one corporal killed, and four men wounded. The New York Mounted Rifles, in forty-four hours, marched seventy-six miles. The 139th New York infantry, in fifty-four hours, marched sixty-one miles, mostly in a severe storm, moving day and night, and walking their shoes off, which should be made good by the Government. All are entitled to high commendation for gallantry and unflinching endurance, Col. West especially, for his precise execution of a difficult combination, which alone could have accomplished my object.

I. J. WISTAR, Brigadier General.

RULES IN THE ARMY.

The following rules at present control trade in the army:

PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE, Dec. 7, 1863.—Until further orders the following rules will be observed:

1. Every sutler or sutler's clerk will confine himself to the orders of his own command and to the headquarters of the corps, division, or brigade, to which he has been designated.

2. The officers' orders must be accompanied by duplicate consolidated invoices, which must state the number of officers ordering, and must be approved by a general order of the command.

3. If bills are presented by sutlers' employees they must be provided with written authority to act for the sutlers.

4. Orders from corps, division, or brigade headquarters must be in the hands of one having written authority to act as agent of such headquarters.

M. R. PATRICK,
Provost Marshal General.

DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

ALL QUIET IN KNOXVILLE.

GEN. FOSTER IN COMMAND OF THE ARMY.

Rumored Repulse of General Sheridan.

THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The *Star* courteously furnishes the following information in advance of its publication.

Despatches were received here last evening from Knoxville, Tenn., dated yesterday morning, which stated that Gen. Foster had assumed the command of the troops lately under Burnside, and the latter had departed from that city, probably for Cincinnati.

All was then quiet in the vicinity of Knoxville.

It was stated there, on the authority of scouts and messengers, that much of Longstreet's artillery and trains had fallen into the hands of our pursuing forces, but these accounts lacked confirmation.

The region in which the pursuit is now being made is so far distant from the telegraph station as to make it difficult to verify such statements as promptly as is desirable.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 15.—There is a rumor here that General Sheridan, commanding the column in pursuit of Longstreet, encountered the rebel rear guard east of Knoxville and sustained a heavy repulse, in which General Sheridan is said to have been badly wounded. The rumor is not generally credited at General Burnsides' headquarters, but it is traced to several distinct sources. Unless corroborated by despatches from Chattanooga, of this date, the story will be discredited.

RESIGNATION OF GENERAL PALMER.

General Palmer has resigned his command of the 14th Corps, and had reached Bridgeport on his return home, when he received orders to return to Chattanooga, his resignation not having been accepted.

Col. Mismer reports from Columbia that the rebel deserters and citizens are flocking to that post in great numbers, asking to be allowed to take the oath under the President's proclamation. Col. M. says in regard to the numbers arriving, that he has never seen the like.

A few days ago a Captain Perkins, of the 11th Tennessee Cavalry, applied to Gen. Rosecrans for permission to take the oath of allegiance under the amnesty proclamation.

He says in a letter that the actual position of Tennessee is not understood or appreciated by Tennesseans in the rebel army, and their eyes have been opened only since his capture.

Gen. Burnside's Congratulatory Order.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Nov. 30, 1863.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 33.—The brilliant events of the 29th instant, so successful to our arms, seem to present a fitting occasion for the commanding general to thank this army for their conduct through the severe experiences of the past seventeen days, to assure them of the important bearing it has had on the campaign in the West, and to give them the news of the great victory gained by General Grant, toward which their fortitude and their bravery have in a high degree contributed.

In every fight in which they have been engaged, and recently in those near Knoxville, at Loudon, at Campbell's Station, and finally around the defences on both sides of the river, while on the march, and in cold and in hunger, they have everywhere shown a spirit which has given to the Army of the Ohio a name second to none.

By holding in check a powerful body of the enemy, they have seriously weakened the Rebel army under Bragg, which has been completely defeated by General Grant, and at the latest accounts was in full retreat for Dalton, closely pursued by him, with the loss of 6,000 prisoners, 52 pieces of artillery, and 12 stands of colors.

For this great and practical result, toward which the Army of the Ohio has done so much, the commanding general congratulates them, and with the fullest reliance on their patience and courage in the dangers they may yet have to meet, looks forward with confidence, under the blessing of Almighty God, to a successful close of the campaign.

By command of Maj.-Gen. BURNSIDE.
LEWIS RICHMOND, A. A. G.
Official: R. C. KISE, Assist. Adj.-Gen.

The Message of Jefferson Davis.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 11.—Jeff. Davis's message to the rebel Congress, dated December 7th, is desponding over the losses of the strongholds of Vicksburg, Port Hudson, and many other points.

He says that "there are no improvements in the relations with foreign countries since his message of last January. On the contrary, there is a greater divergence in the conduct of European nations, assuming a character positively unfriendly, and a marked partiality by Great Britain in favor of our enemies is strongly evinced in their decisions regarding the blockade, as well as their marked difference of conduct on the subject of the purchase of supplies by the two belligerents. This difference has been conspicuous since the commencement of the war."

The public finances demand the strictest and most earnest attention. A prompt and efficacious remedy for the present condition of the currency is necessary to a successful performance of the administration of the Government.

He recommends taxation instead of further sales of bonds or issues of treasury notes. The holders of the currency now outstanding can only be protected by substituting for them some other security. The currency must be promptly reduced to prevent the present inflated prices reaching rates more extravagant.

He calls upon the people to come to the rescue. He recommends putting an end to substitution, and a modification of the exemption law, and to add forces to their army largely and as promptly as possible. He regrets the suspension of the exchange of prisoners, and that the communication with the trans-Mississippi region is so obstructed as to render difficult the complying with the legislation vesting the authority over it in the Executive of the Government. The enemy refuse the proposals for the only peace that is possible between us, and the only hope for peace now is in the vigor of our resistance.

THE STEAMER CHESAPEAKE.

Details of the Scheme to Seize the Ship.

Plot of Confederate Agents.

ST. JOHN, Dec. 10.—The *Evening Globe* gives the following, as connected with the capture of the steamer Chesapeake: "The scheme was matured here by Confederate agents. Meetings were held, and the passage money of the parties who were to make the seizure, was paid through to New York. They were promised $600 each, on the steamer being safely taken into Wilmington. It was also arranged that at a certain store in New York each of the parties were to call, at different times, for a parcel, containing a revolver, ammunition, and a pair of handcuffs. It is believed that the cargo, which was very valuable, was shipped by Confederate agents to the South, and it was arranged that she should be seized on this particular trip. The managers of the plot represented that the Chesapeake was to have been taken while attempting to run the blockade, and this was but a harmless effort to get back Southern property.

We have the names of five of the parties who were engaged in the seizure. They belong to this city, and left here with Captain Braine. They are of that worst species of humanity, denominated as "roughs," and one of them is just out of the penitentiary.

They all went from here in the steamer New England, on the 3d, to Boston.

The Chesapeake did not coal here. She called off the harbor, and took on board Capt. Parker, formerly of the privateer Retribution, who took command.

The citizens generally regret that this city has unwittingly afforded a temporary shelter to the conductors of this scheme, and that any person from this place should be concerned in it. Public opinion condemns the act entirely.

THE PURSUIT OF THE CHESAPEAKE.

HALIFAX, Dec. 15.—The steamer Chesapeake is doubtless hovering about the coast, as there are several traces of her since leaving Shelbourne, on Saturday. The gunboats in pursuit of her have not been heard from.

ST. JOHNS, Dec. 14.—It is reported by Captain Doherty, of the bark Colonist, which arrived this morning from Cork, that he saw a steamer, bark rigged, at 11 o'clock, yesterday morning, steering N. E. by N.

HALIFAX, Dec. 14.—The reports of the whereabouts of the Chesapeake are contradictory. It is most probable that she is in Lehave river, four miles south of Bridgewater. A dense fog has prevailed since Saturday night. A United States gunboat passed Yarmouth yesterday.

Lehave river is sixty miles southwest of Halifax, and a few miles in the same direction from Lunenburg.

PORTLAND, Dec. 15.—The gunboat Agawam, which sailed hence in pursuit of the steamer Chesapeake, arrived at Rockland, Maine, to-day, short of coal, and awaits orders for her further movements.

HALIFAX, Dec. 15.—The Chesapeake is reported near La Have, about eighty miles west of Halifax. She was lying four miles south of the town of Bridgewater on the La Have river. It is reported that she was to leave to-night. The United States steamer Ella and Anna is now here, and leaves as soon as she completes her coaling.

PORTLAND, Dec. 16.—The U. S. consul at Halifax telegraphs to Collector Washburne, this evening, that the Chesapeake is near Chester, in Mahone Bay, and requests that the captain or mate be sent on forthwith to identify the pirates. In the absence of the captain, who is in New York, and as the mate is badly wounded, the stewardess and one of the crew will be taken on board the gunboat Acacia, and proceed there, leaving about 10 o'clock to-night.

THE PRISONERS AT RICHMOND.

Interesting Correspondence—The Distribution of Supplies Sent to the Prisoners—What the Rebels Say.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The following letter was forwarded to General Meredith by Robert Ould, and his special attention requested to its contents:

"QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
"C. S. MILITARY PRISONS,
"RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 3, 1863.

"COLONEL: Having heard a complaint from headquarters that the provisions received from your Government were not issued to the Federal officers confined in this prison, and that your fellow-prisoners with you have suffered in consequence thereof, you will please state the facts of this case, and at what time the provisions arrived, when they were received by you, and whether issued in proper quantities. Also request Colonel Boyd to state at what time he saw the provisions issued at Belle Isle.

"I have the honor to be, Colonel,
"Your most obedient servant,
"J. THOMAS, Captain and A. A. Q. M."

"Lieutenant Colonel J. M. SANDERSON, Prisoner of War, Richmond, C. S. Military Prison.

REPLY OF LIEUT. COL. SANDERSON.

"LIBBY, Dec. 3d, 1863.

"CAPTAIN: In answer to your note of this date, I would state that as near as I can recollect, you personally offered, on Sunday, November 22d, to distribute to the officers in this prison twenty-seven barrels, containing pork, salt, beef, flour, and corn meal, sent by the Baltimore *American* Relief Fund, but having no convenience for issuing it, I declined receiving it.

"On the following day, however, I inspected, in company with other officers, and directed Mr. Burnham, your assistant, to issue it in rations of half a pound per man to the two officers acting as commissioners for the prisoners, and I can cheerfully state that the instructions have thus far been faithfully complied with, and these provisions have been issued in addition to the regular rations allowed us by the authorities here.

"Very respectfully yours,
"J. M. SANDERSON,
"Lieutenant Colonel United States Army."

LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON DISTRIBUTION.

"LIBBY PRISON, Richmond, Va., Dec. 4, 1863.

"*Capt. C. McRae Selph, Assistant Adjutant General*:

"SIR: In answer to your communication of this date, referring to statements that have been made in regard to the distribution of clothing and rations sent to Richmond by the United States Government for Federal prisoners of war, the committee in charge of the distribution of clothing desire to submit the following statement:

"When the committee entered on their duties November 10, only a small supply of clothing had been received at Richmond. To secure an equitable distribution of this to those who were most needy, and to ascertain what future consignments would be required for their comfort, it was deemed advisable to make an inspection of all the prisoners. A careful inspection was therefore made of all the prisoners of war on Belle Island and in Richmond, and a record made of the condition of each article of their clothing. While this was in progress issues of blankets and such clothing as had been received were made to the most needy. Since the arrival of the last lot, November 22d, two members of the committee have been constantly engaged in the distribution, which is now almost complete. The committee is unable to prepare a statement of the amount of clothing issued in time for this communication. Statements in detail will be prepared, however, as soon as possible, of the amount of clothing received and issued, and to whom issued, and the amount required to fully supply the wants of the prisoners of war now here, a copy of which we respectfully request may be forwarded by flag of truce to the proper United States military authorities.

"A shipment of clothing is now being made to Danville, sufficient to supply the wants of the prisoners of war at that place. The committee take pleasure in stating that every facility for the inspection of the prisoners and the distribution of the clothing has been afforded them by the rebel military authorities.

"The duties of the committee were limited by the order putting them on duty exclusively to the distribution of clothing.

"The fact that rations forwarded by the United States Government and societies in the North were being issued to the prisoners of war on Belle Isle, in the prisons in Richmond, has, however, frequently come under the observation of members of the committee, while in the discharge of the duty assigned them.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servants,
"A. VAN SHUNDER,
"Lieut. Col. A. J. G. 14th A. C.
"H. B. HUNTER,
"Lieut. Col. 123d O. V. V.
"J. F. BOYD,
"Colonel and Quartermaster,
"JAMES M. SANDERSON,
"Lieut. Col. and C. S. V. A. C."

Successful Blockade-Running in North Carolina.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The following letter has been received from Newbern, N. C., dated the 5th instant:

The Wilmington papers are full of advertisements offering for sale goods by the cargo that have run the blockade. Sugar is selling at three cents per pound, and other goods in proportion. Owing to the immense inland traffic, all the railroads from Wilmington are at work night and day, to the exclusion of all other business, conveying supplies to the rebel army, and goods into the interior.

Over 200 steamers and vessels belonging to different lines are engaged in running the blockade into this one port. Gov. Vance says in his recent message that the State of North Carolina, which is largely engaged in this business, has received clothing enough through this channel to clothe her troops to January 1865.

THE report that General Thomas Francis Meagher was taken prisoner by the rebels during the recent movement of the Army of the Potomac, while on a visit to the remnant of his old brigade, is without the least foundation. He recrossed the Rapidan with the brigade, as he accompanied it over, and is now the guest of General Corcoran, at Fairfax Court House.

THE MONITOR WEEHAWKEN.

A Sudden and Terrible Catastrophe.

UNITED STATES TRANSPORT FULTON, OFF CHARLESTON, Dec. 8, 1863.—At two o'clock, on Sunday afternoon, while a furious wind prevailed from the northwest, the iron-clad Weehawken, lying at the entrance of Charleston harbor, went down at her anchorage—went suddenly, swiftly, and unaccountably to the bottom, and carried with her, to a horrible death beneath the waves, four of her engineers and twenty-six of her crew.

NAMES OF THE ENGINEERS WHO WERE LOST.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—The engineers lost on the monitor Weehawken were probably the following: F. Horlie, J. B. Allen, H. W. Merrian, and A. Mitchell. The latter is known to have perished. Mr. Young, another engineer, was saved.

The Weehawken lies in five fathoms of water, but it is expected that she can be raised. Her loss is said to have been caused by neglect and bad management.

No accurate list of the lost has been received.

A correspondent of the *Herald* says:

"The first signal of distress was made from the Weehawken, at a few minutes before two o'clock. The signal was seen and answered at once by the flagship, from which four boats were despatched to her assistance, and by the South Carolina, which sent two of her boats to the Weehawken's aid. The tugs Dandelion and Iris were at once called up, and with them Commander Duncan, of the Weehawken, who chanced to be on the flagship, and in conversation with the Admiral, when the signal was made, proceeded immediately, with the hope of running his vessel on the beach. He had scarcely left the Admiral when the officer of the deck made out from the Weehawken a new signal, and immediately reported her to be sinking. A moment after she settled swiftly by the head, careened slightly to starboard, and disappeared beneath the waves.

It is impossible to convey any idea of the appalling nature of this disaster. When the first signal of distress was made no one divined how serious was the danger, and when, at length, the vessel went down, it was difficult for those who saw her disappear to credit even the evidence of their own senses. The confusion on the flag ship, arising mainly from the difficulty of launching her boats, and the desire of both officers and men to be first in them, was most intense and painful. The wind was blowing with great fury, and boats hastened from all sides to the scene, and encountered great peril in picking up the few who had succeeded in getting away from the Weehawken before she sank. Almost at the moment she went down some twenty or more sprang to the boats and succeeded in getting away. As many others were rescued from the surging waves by the launches of the flag-ship, the South Carolina, and the tugboats Dandelion and Iris. Thirty perished.

All day the Weehawken labored heavily in the sea, which kept her decks constantly submerged, and which frequently swept in huge volumes into her forward hatch. Towards noon the crew commenced paying out chain, to ease her; but, accustomed as they were, in every gale, to the shipping of such seas, it is believed that they had grown confident and careless of danger, and paid no attention to the encroaching waters until it was too late to resist them. Then, when it was known for a certainty that the vessel was to be lost, a panic of fright and fear benumbed them, and the terror-stricken crew below had little power to help themselves. There were men in irons between decks, and the sergeant-at-arms rushed frantically to release them. There were invalids in the sick bay, and to their relief the surgeon sent his steward, who never returned. There were firemen at the furnaces, to whom vain shrieks for a helping hand at the pumps were made. A few of the confident were rushing to their quarters to save their effects, jostling the timid on their way to the deck to save themselves. It was in the midst of scenes like this that the Weehawken went down.

None of the officers perished save the four assistant engineers, who were overtaken by the flood before they could make any effort to escape. Commander Duncan had only taken command of the Weehawken on Saturday, having detached from the Paul Jones to relieve Commander Calhoun. The officers' clothing, the paymasters' funds, and the papers of the ship, sank with her.

The yeoman was brought alive on board the flagship, but died in spasms a few minutes afterwards. Various parties were picked up and taken to the nearest vessels, where every provision was made for their comfort and restoration. Those of the crew who were saved are now scattered in small squads through the fleet.

THE LOST ON THE WEEHAWKEN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Navy Department has received the following list of the lost on the monitor Weehawken:

Officers.—H. W. Merian, third assistant engineer; Augustus Mitchell, third assistant engineer; G. W. McGowan, acting third assistant engineer; Chas. Spongberg, acting third assistant engineer.

Men.—Thomas Piper, John Bickley, John Carpenter, C. F. Davis, C. H. Wilson, C. Anderson, Ralph Anderson, Edward Mullen, James Lenman, Robert Nugent, W. G. Pike, Henry Summer, Thomas Stother, one name unknown, Thomas Daulat, James Scollen, John Kerugan, Joseph Crogan, John Williams, William H. Williamson, John Rutledge, Edward Garghan, Michael Cliner, Thomas Mac, Thomas Donovan, George Leighton, Stephen C. Newman.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The State Treasury.

Summary of the Receipts and Payments at the State Treasury, from the 1st day of December, 1862, to the 30th day of November, 1863, both days inclusive:

[Prepared at the Office of the Auditor General.]

RECEIPTS.

Lands	$18,457 03	
Auction Commissions	14,882 45	
Auction Duties	59 065 27	
Tax on Bank Dividends	228,299 68	
Tax on Corporation Stocks	458,422 26	
Tax on Real and Personal Estate, including ½ mill tax	1,733,401 91	
Tavern Licenses	216,268 09	
Retailers' Licenses	192,347 11	
Pedlers' Licenses	1,365 10	
Brokers' Licenses	9,200 76	
Theatre, Circus, and Menagerie Licenses	2,156 80	
Distillery and Brewery Licenses	7,655 91	
Billiard Room, Bowling Saloon, &c., Licenses	4,557 83	
Eating House, Beer House, &c., Licenses	16,366 42	
Patent Medicine Licenses	1,112 50	
Pamphlet Laws	179 40	
Militia Tax	6,545 53	
Millers' Tax	661 65	
Foreign Insurance Agencies	41,650 74	
Tax on Writs, Wills, Deeds, &c.	61,723 96	
Tax on Certain Officers	12 424 88	
Collateral Inheritance Tax	157 003 59	
Tax on Enrolment of Laws	6,810 00	
Premiums on Charters	15,644 85	
Wyoming Canal Co., Bonds Redeemed	181 000 00	
Tax on Tonnage, Commutation of	850,000 00	
Banks Paying Interest Equivalent to Coin	3,004 74	
Escheats	1,050 00	
Free Banking System	6,378 92	
Dividends on Bridge Stocks	100 00	
Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Bond No. 6 Redeemed	100,000 00	
Accrued Interest	17,694 74	
Refunded Cash, Ordinary	6,779 10	
Refunded Cash, Military	9,789 48	
Tax on Loans	147,750 81	
Interest on Loans	34,161 55	
Annuity for Right of Way	10,100 00	
Fines and Forfeitures	15 05	
United States Government	56,211 84	
Tax on Brokers and Private Bankers	23,041 20	
Fees of the Public Offices	3,101 42	
Miscellaneous (Cases of Conscience)	420 00	
		$4,289,451 65
Balance in the State Treasury, November 30, 1862, available	$2,172,844 10	
Depreciated Funds in the Treasury, unavailable	41,032 00	
		$2,213,876 10
		$6,503,327 75

PAYMENTS.

Expenses of Government	$446,456 83	
Military Expenses, ordinary	4,311 60	
Pennsylvania Volunteers in the late war with Mexico	16 00	
Military Expenses for defence of the State and Union per act of May 15, 1861	125,653 79	
Military Expenses for defence of the State and Union per act of April 16, 1862, and paid out of the appropriation of May 15, 1861	53,664 99	
Military Expenses for defence, &c., per act of April 14, 1863, and paid out of the appropriation of May 15, 1861	2,450 66	
Military Expenses for defence, &c., per act of April 22, 1863, and paid out of the appropriation of May 15, 1861, &c.	21,989 23	
Pensions and gratuities, ordinary	5 056 65	
Pensions under the act of May 15, 1861	345 58	
Charitable Institutions	119,926 87	
Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society	2,000 00	
Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania	6 237 50	
State Normal Schools	10,000 00	
Philadelphia School of Design for Women	2,000 00	
Common schools	317,666 97	
Commissioners of the Sinking Fund—viz. Loans, &c., redeemed	$951,663 78	
Other payments	3,535 33	
	955,412 11	
Interest on Loans	2,067,749 61	
Domestic Creditors' certificates, including interest	13 00	
Damages on the Public Works and old claims	1,104 64	
Special Commissioners	3 007 33	
State Library	3 168 92	
Public Buildings and Grounds	5,624 20	
House of Refuge	35,029 16	
Penitentiaries	32,524 00	
Escheats	631 76	
Revenue Commissioners	0,326 42	
Free Banking System	3,945 61	
Abatement of State Tax	60,147 41	
Mercantile Appraisers	637 14	
Miscellaneous	5 845 38	
		$4,314,564 05
Balance in the Treasury, November 30, 1863, available	2,147,331 70	
Depreciated Funds in the Treasury, unavailable	41 032 00	
		2,188,363 70
		$6,503,327 75

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS—1st SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1863.

SENATE.

Enlistments.

Mr. FOSTER, of Connecticut, gave notice of his intention to present a bill to encourage enlistments in the naval service of the United States, and to credit such enlistments on the military quotas of the several States.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, presented a memorial from the President and Professors of the Theological School at Meadville, for the emancipation of all persons of African descent held to slavery.

The Fugitive Law.

Mr. SUMNER also gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to repeal all acts for the rendition of fugitive slaves.

On motion, the Senate then adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Russian Officers.

The SPEAKER laid before the House an unofficial letter from the Secretary of State, stating that the Russian Minister has informed him that the Admiral will be ready to receive the members of Congress and their ladies, on Saturday, at noon. Boats are to be ready at the Navy Yard to take them on board of the fleet.

Mr. FENTON, of New York, gave notice that it was his intention to introduce a bill to facilitate the payment of the bounties due on the accounts of deceased soldiers.

On motion of Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, it was resolved, that when the House adjourn to-day, it should be until Monday next.

Mr. PENDLETON, of Ohio, gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to admit to seats upon the floor of the Senate and House of Representatives, the members of the Cabinet, with the right to debate the matters pertaining to the business of their Departments respectively.

The memorial of Thomas L. Price, contesting the seat of John W. McClurg, from the Fourth district of Missouri, was referred to the Committee on Elections.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the finances.

The House then proceeded to an election for Chaplain. Eleven candidates were placed in nomination.

Mr. Channing made Chaplain over Bishop Hopkins.

Before the result was announced numerous gentlemen changed their votes for the leading candidates, who were Bishop Hopkins, of Vermont, the author of "The Bible View of Slavery," and W. H. Channing, a Unitarian minister, of Washington.

The following was the result of the vote:

For Rev. Mr. Channing 59
For Rev. Mr. Hopkins 55

The other votes were scattering, so Rev. Mr. Channing was declared elected as Chaplain of the House.

[Mr. Channing is a very strong Union man.]

The House then adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.

On motion of Mr. FOSTER, of Connecticut, the Senate proceeded to elect the following standing committees:

Standing Committees.

On Foreign Relations.—Messrs. Sumner of Massachusetts, chairman; Foster of Connecticut, Doolittle of Wisconsin, Harris of New York, Johnson of Maryland, and McDougall of California.

On Finance.—Messrs. Fessenden, of Maine, chairman; Sherman, of Ohio; Howe, of Wisconsin; Cowan, of Pennsylvania; Clark, of New Hampshire; Van Winkle, of West Virginia, and Conness, of California.

On Commerce.—Messrs. Chandler, of Michigan, chairman; Morrill, of Maine; Ten Eyck, of New Jersey; Morgan, of New York; Sprague, of Rhode Island; Bowden, of Virginia, and Saulsbury, of Delaware.

On Agriculture.—Messrs. Sherman, of Ohio, chairman; Harlan, of Iowa; Wilson, of Massachusetts; Lane, of Kansas, and Powell, of Kentucky.

On Military Affairs and the Militia.—Messrs. Wilson, of Massachusetts, chairman; Lane, of Indiana; Howard, of Michigan; Nesmith, of Oregon; Morgan, of New York; Sprague, of Rhode Island, and Brown, of Missouri.

On Naval Affairs.—Messrs. Hale, of New Hampshire, chairman; Anthony, of Rhode Island; Willey, of West Virginia; Ramsey, of Minnesota; Harding, of Oregon, and Hicks, of Maryland.

On the Judiciary.—Messrs. Trumbull, of Illinois, chairman; Foster, of Connecticut; Ten Eyck, of New Jersey; Harris, of New York, Howard, of Michigan; Bayard, of Delaware, and Powell, of Kentucky.

On the Post Office and Post Roads.—Messrs. Collamer, of Vermont, chairman; Nixon, of Connecticut; Ramsey, of Minnesota; Henderson, of Missouri; Bowden, of Virginia; Conness, of California, and Buckalew, of Pennsylvania.

On the Public Lands.—Messrs. Harlan, of Iowa, chairman; Pomeroy, of Kansas; Foot, of Vermont; Harding, of Oregon; Carlile, of Virginia; Hendricks, of Indiana, and Wright.

On Private Land Claims.—Messrs. Harris, of New York, chairman; Sumner, of Massachusetts; Howard, of Michigan; Bayard, of Delaware; McDougall, of California.

On Indian Affairs.—Messrs. Doolittle, of Wisconsin, chairman; Wilkinson, of Minnesota; Lane, of Kansas; Harlan, of Iowa; Nesmith, of Oregon; Brown, of Missouri, and Buckalew, of Pennsylvania.

On Pensions.—Messrs. Foster, of Connecticut, chairman; Lane, of Indiana; Pomeroy, of Kansas; Bowden, of Virginia; Van Winkle, of West Virginia; Saulsbury, of Delaware; Buckalew, of Pennsylvania.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Mr. Wilkinson, chairman; Messrs. Chandler, Wilson, Nesmith, and Wright.

On Claims.—Mr. Clark, chairman; Messrs. Howe, Pomeroy, Anthony, Morrill, Hicks, and Hendricks.

District of Columbia.—Mr. Grimes, chairman; Messrs. Dixon, Morrill, Wade, Willey, Henderson, and Richardson.

On Patents and the Patent Office.—Mr. Cowan, chairman; Messrs. Ten Eyck, Sherman, Ramsay and Saulsbury.

On Public Buildings and Grounds.—Mr. Foot, chairman; Messrs. Trumbull, Grimes, Henderson, and Hendricks.

On Territories.—Mr. Wade, chairman; Messrs. Wilkinson, Hale, Lane, of Kansas; Carlile, Davis, of Missouri, and Richardson.

To Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate.—Mr. Dixon, chairman; Messrs. Clark and Harding.

On Engrossed Bills.—Mr. Lane, of Indiana, chairman; Messrs. Sumner and Willey.

Joint Standing Committees.

Joint Committee on Printing on the part of the Senate.—Mr. Anthony, chairman; Messrs. Morgan and Powell.

Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills on the part of the Senate.—Mr. Howe, chairman; Messrs. Cowan and Hicks.

Joint Committee on the Library on the part of the Senate.—Mr. Collamer, chairman; Messrs. Fessenden and Johnson.

Resolution of Thanks.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That the gratitude of the American people, and the thanks of their representatives in Congress, are due and are hereby tendered to Major General Joseph Hooker and the officers and soldiers of the Army of the Potomac for the skill, energy, and endurance which first covered Washington and Baltimore from the meditated blow of the advancing and powerful army of the rebels, led by General Robert E. Lee; and to Major General George G. Meade and the officers and soldiers of that army for the skill and heroic valor which, at Gettysburg, repulsed, defeated, and drove back, broken and depressed, the veteran army of the rebellion.

The resolution was read for the second time, and then referred, to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. WILSON also introduced a joint resolution that the thanks of Congress be hereby tendered to Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, and the officers and soldiers under his command, for the skill, courage, and endurance, which compelled the surrender of Port Hudson, and thus removed the last obstruction to the free navigation of the Mississippi river; and this resolution was also referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Important Bills.

Mr. NESMITH, of Oregon, presented a petition for the establishment of a port of entry at Portland, Oregon, and gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to establish a branch mint at Portland.

Mr. HENDRICKS, of Indiana, gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to extend the time in which the States may receive lands for the establishment of agricultural colleges.

Mr. DOOLITTLE, of Wisconsin, called up the joint resolution from the House, voting a gold medal and the thanks of Congress to Major General Grant. It was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

HOUSE.

The Standing Committees.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Speaker announced the following standing committees:

Elections.—Messrs. Dawes, Massachusetts; Voorhees, Indiana; Baxter, Vermont; G. Clay Smith, Kentucky; Ganson, New York; Schofield, Pennsylvania; Smithers, Delaware; Upson, Michigan; and Brown, Wisconsin.

Ways and Means.—Messrs. Stevens, Pennsylvania; Morrill, Vermont; Pendleton, Ohio; Fenton, New York; Hooper, Massachusetts; Mallory, Kentucky; Blow, Missouri; Kasson, Iowa, and Stebbins, New York.

Claims.—Messrs. Hale, Pennsylvania; Holman, Indiana; Webster, Indiana; Ashley, Ohio; W. J. Allen, Illinois; Hotchkiss, New York; Brow, West Virginia; Pruyne, New York, and Long, Ohio.

Commerce.—Messrs. Washburne, Illinois; Eliot, Massachusetts; Ward, Kentucky; Dixon, Rhode Island; Creswell, Maryland; Perry, New Jersey; O'Neill, Pennsylvania; Longyear, Michigan, and Hatchie, Ohio.

Public Lands.—Messrs. Julian, Indiana; English, Connecticut; Higby, California; Allison, Iowa; Wadsworth, Kentucky; Sloan, Wisconsin; Fernando Wood, New York; Briggs, Michigan, and Miller, New York.

Post Offices and Post Roads.—Alley, Massachusetts; Norton, Illinois; Harding, Kentucky; Donnelly, Minnesota; Blaine, Maine; Brooks, New York; Cole, California; Grinnell, Iowa, and Fink, Ohio.

District of Columbia.—Messrs. Lovejoy, Illinois; Dumont, Indiana; Steel, New York; Anderson, Kentucky; Patterson, New Hampshire; Morris, Ohio; Davis, New York; Tracy, Pennsylvania, and Wheeler, Wisconsin.

Judiciary.—Messrs. Wilson, Iowa; Boutwell, Massachusetts; Kernan, New York; Thomas, Maryland; Williams, Pennsylvania; King, Missouri; Woodbridge, Vermont; Morris, New York, and Bliss, Ohio.

Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Price, Iowa; Stiles, Pennsylvania; Norton, Illinois; Kalbfleisch, New York; Amos, Massachusetts; Eldridge, Wisconsin; Dumont, Indiana; Johnson, Ohio, and Scott, Missouri.

Public Expenditures.—Messrs. Hurlbut, New York; Broomall, Pennsylvania; Le Blond, Ohio; Julian, Indiana; Lazear, Pennsylvania; Blair, West Virginia; Rollins, New Hampshire; Rogers, New Jersey, and Harris, Illinois.

Private Land Claims.—Messrs. Thayer, Pennsylvania; Hotchkiss, New York; Knapp, Illinois; Gooch, Massachusetts; O'Neill, Ohio; Winfield, New York; Eckley, Ohio; Sweat, Maine, and Harrington, Indiana.

Manufactures.—Messrs. Moorehead, Pennsylvania; Kellogg, New York; Ancona, Pennsylvania; Arnold, Illinois; Freeman Clarke, New York; Chilton A. White, Ohio; Ames, Massachusetts; Starr, New Jersey, and Haine, Maryland.

Agriculture.—Messrs. Clay, Kentucky; Whaley, West Virginia; Bailey, Pennsylvania; Hurlbut, New York; Law, Indiana; Kelley, Pennsylvania; Perham, Maine; Baldwin, Michigan, and Middleton, New Jersey.

Indian Affairs.—Messrs. Windom, Minnesota; McIndoe, Wisconsin; James C. Allen, Illinois; McBride, Oregon; Wilder, Kansas; Wilson, New York; Boyd, Missouri; Shannon, California, and Dennison, Pennsylvania.

Military Affairs.—Messrs. Schenck, Ohio; Farnsworth, Illinois; Yeaman, Kentucky; Garfield, Ohio; Loan, Missouri; Odell, New York; Deming, Connecticut; Kellogg, Michigan, and McAllister, Pennsylvania.

On the Militia.—Messrs. Vanvalkenburg, New York; G. Clay Smith, Kentucky; Ancona, Pennsylvania; Webster, Maryland; Kellogg, New York; Morrison, Illinois; Blaine, Maine; Cobb, Wisconsin, and McKinney, Ohio.

Territories.—Messrs. Ashley, Ohio; Beaman, Michigan; Cravens, Indiana; Lovejoy, Illinois; Rice, Maine; Grider, Kentucky; Marvin, New York; McClurg, Missouri, and Johnson, Pennsylvania.

Naval Affairs.—Messrs. Rice, Massachusetts; Moorhead, Pennsylvania; Griswold, New York; Pike, Maine; Kelley, Pennsylvania; Rollins, Missouri; Spaulding, Ohio; Brandage, Connecticut, and Edgerton, Indiana.

Foreign Affairs.—Messrs. H. Winter Davis, Maryland; Gooch, Massachusetts; Cox, Ohio; Pomeroy, New York; Orth, Indiana; Randall, Kentucky; Dawson, Pennsylvania; Hubbard, Iowa, and Stuart, Illinois.

Revolutionary Pensions.—Messrs. Littlejohn, New York; Law, Indiana; McIndoe, Wisconsin; Herrick, New York; Spaulding, Ohio; Eden, Illinois; Clem, Kentucky; Marcy, New Hampshire, and Coffroth, Pennsylvania.

Invalid Pensions.—Messrs. Whaley, West Virginia; Benj. Wood, New York; Perham, Maine; McDowell, Indiana; Washburne, Massachusetts; Miller, Pennsylvania; Freeman Clark, New York; Ross, Illinois, and Creswell, Maryland.

Patents.—Messrs. Jenkes, Rhode Island; Leonard Myers, Pennsylvania; Noble, Ohio; Hubbard, Connecticut, and Chanler, New York.

Public Buildings and Grounds.—Messrs. Rice, Maine; Blair, West Virginia; Randall, Pennsylvania; Starr, New Jersey, and Radford, New York.

Roads and Canals.—Messrs. Arnold, Illinois; Littlejohn, New York; Hall, Missouri; Beaman, Michigan; Washburne, Massachusetts; Ward, New York; Eckley, Ohio; Allison, Iowa, and Strouse, Pennsylvania.

Revised and Unfinished Business.—Messrs. Boyd, Missouri; Nelson, New York; McKinney, Ohio; Upson, Michigan, and J. C. Allen, Illinois.

Mileage.—Messrs. Robinson, Illinois; Frank, New York; Amos Myers, Pennsylvania; Benj. Wood, New York, and J. W. White, Ohio.

Accounts.—Messrs. Rollins, New Hampshire; Broomall, Pennsylvania; Steele, New York; A. W. Clark, New York, and Eden, Illinois.

Expenditures of State Department.—Messrs. Pike, Maine; Robinson, Illinois; Van Valkenburg, New York; Stiles, Pennsylvania, and English, Connecticut.

Expenditures of War Department.—Messrs. Deming, Connecticut; Steele, New York; Harris, Illinois; Sloan, Wisconsin, and Schofield, Pennsylvania.

Expenditures of Navy Department.—Messrs. Baxter, Vermont; Higby, California; Herrick, New York; Marcy, New Hampshire, and Tracy, Pennsylvania.

Library.—Messrs. Frank, New York; Washburne, Illinois, and Wadsworth, Kentucky.

Expenditures Treasury Department.—Messrs. Amos Myers, Pennsylvania; Kalbfleisch, New York; J. W. Allen, Ohio; Eliot, Massachusetts, and Patterson, New Hampshire.

Expenditures of Post Office Department.—Messrs. Pomeroy, New York; C. A. White, Ohio; Leonard Myers, Pennsylvania; Hall, Missouri, and Hubbard, Connecticut.

Expenditures of Interior Department.—Messrs. Shannon, California; Middleton, New Jersey; Coffroth, Pennsylvania; Donnelly, Minnesota, and Baldwin, Michigan.

Expenditures on Public Buildings.—Messrs. Longyear, Michigan; Lazear, Pennsylvania; Baldwin, Massachusetts; Johnson, Ohio, and Brandager, Connecticut.

Printing.—Messrs. A. W. Clark, New York; Bailey, Pennsylvania, and Baldwin, Massachusetts.

Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Cobb, Wisconsin, and Steele, New Jersey.

The Reciprocity Treaty.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, introduced a joint resolution authorizing the President to give to the Government of Great Britain the notice required for the termination of the reciprocity treaty, of June 5th, 1854, and moved its reference to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. ELIJAH WARD, of New York, moved, as an amendment, to refer it to the Committee on Commerce. He remarked, that it should take that direction, as the subject had been fully elaborated and considered by that committee at the last session.

Mr. MORRILL said it was time that the treaty should be abrogated, as it deprived us of the privilege of revising our tariff, or levying internal taxes according as our wisdom and judgment may dictate.

The House refused to refer the resolution to the Committee on Ways and Means, and committed it to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. ELIJAH WARD, of New York, introduced a joint resolution for the appointment of commissioners to negotiate a new treaty of reciprocity with Great Britain for the British provinces in North America, based on the true principles of reciprocity.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Fernando Wood's Peace Resolution.

Mr. FERNANDO WOOD, of New York, submitted the following resolution:

Whereas, The President, in his message delivered to this House on the 9th instant and in his recommendation to the people to assemble at their places of worship and give thanks to God for recent victories, claims that the Union cause has gained important and substantial advantages;

And whereas, In view of these triumphs, it is no longer beneath our dignity nor dangerous to our safety to evince a generous magnanimity, becoming a great and powerful people, by offering to the insurgents an opportunity to return to the Union without imposing upon them degrading or destructive conditions: therefore, be it

Resolved, That the President be requested to appoint three commissioners, who shall be empowered to open negotiations with the authorities at Richmond, to the end that this bloody, destructive, and inhuman war shall cease, and the Union be restored upon terms of equity, fraternity, and equality, under the Constitution.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, moved to lay the resolution on the table. Agreed to by a vote of 98 yeas to 59 nays, as follows:

YEAS.

Alley, Allison, Anderson, Arnold, Ashley, Baily, Baldwin, Baxter, Beaman, Blaine, Blair (West Va), Blow, Boutwell, Boyd, Brandeger, Broomall, Brown (West Va), Clarke, Ambrose B., Clarke, Freeman, Cobb, Cole, Creswell, Davis (Md), Dawes, Deming, Dixon, Donnelly, Driggs, Dumont, Eckley, Eliot, Farnsworth, Fenton, Ganson, Garfield, Gooch, Grinnell, Griswold, Hale, Hooper, Hotchkiss, Hubbard (Iowa), Hubbard (Conn), Hubbard, Calvin, Jenks, Julian, Kasson, Kellogg (Mich), Kellogg (N Y), Loan, Longyear, Lovejoy, Marvin, McBride, McClurg, McIndoe, Miller (N Y), Morehead, Morrill, Morris (N Y), Myers, Amos, Myers, Leonard, Norton, O'Neill (Penna), Orth, Patterson, Perham, Pike, Pomeroy, Price, Randall (Ky), Rice (Mass), Rice (Maine), Rollins (N H), Schenck, Schofield, Shannon, Sloan, Smith, Smithers, Spalding, Stevens, Thayer, Thomas, Tracy, Upson, Van Valkenburgh, Ward, Elijah, Washburne (Ill), Washburn (Mass), Whaley, Wheeler, Williams, Wilder, Wilson, Windom, Woodbridge, Yeaman.

NAYS.

Allen J C, Allen W J, Ancona, Baldwin N, Bliss, Brooks, Chandler, Clay, Coffroth, Cox, Cravens, Dawson, Dennison, Eden, Edgerton, Eldridge, English, Finck, Grider, Harding, Harrington, Harris (Md), Harris (Ills), Herrick, Holman, Johnson (Ohio), Kernan, King, Knapp, Law, Lazear, LeBlond, Long, Mallory, Marcy, McDowell, McKinney, Miller (Pa), Morris (Ohio), Morrison, Nelson, Noble, Odell, O'Neil (Ohio), Pendleton, Robinson, Rollins (Mo), Ross, Scott, Stebbins, Steele (N Y), Stuart, Sweat, Voorhees, Wadsworth, White C N, White J W, Winfield, Wood F.

Mr. HARDING, of Kentucky, offered the following resolution; but a debate arising, it lies over under the rule:

Restoration of States.

Resolved, That the Union has not been dissolved, and that whenever the rebellion in any of the seceded States shall be put down and subdued, either by the force of the Federal army or by the voluntary submission of the people of such State to the authority of the Constitution, then such State will be thereby restored to all its rights and privileges as a State of the Union under the Constitution of such State and the Constitution of the United States, including the rights to regulate, order, and control its own domestic institutions according to the Constitution and laws of such State, free from all Congressional or Executive control and dictation.

Mr. FINCK, of Ohio, offered the following preamble and resolution. A debate rising, it lies over under the rules:

Whereas, In the opinion of this House, the Federal Government is invested by the Constitution of the United States with the necessary power and authority to suppress any resistance to the due execution of the laws thereof, and to employ the army and navy, in aid of the civil authority, to disperse all armed resistance to the rightful power of the United States; and

Whereas, In the judgment of this House, the army and navy cannot be rightfully used to subjugate and hold, as conquered territory, the States in this Union: Therefore be it

Resolved, That in this national emergency Congress will forego all feelings of mere passion or resentment

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and will recollect only its duty to its country. And that this war should not be waged on our part in any spirit of oppression or subjugation, nor for the purpose of overthrowing the established institutions of a State, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality, and rights of the several States unimpaired; and as soon as these objects are attained the war ought to cease.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15, 1863.

SENATE.

Bill to Prevent Speculation in Gold.

Mr. LANE (U.), of Kansas, introduced, on leave, a bill providing that all traffic in gold, silver, and foreign exchange, for speculative purposes, or the purchase through a broker by depositing less than the full amount of the purchase, or on what is known as a margin, is expressly prohibited.

Section third of the bill prohibits sales of gold, silver, or foreign exchange, by any banker or bank, directly or indirectly, at any place except at the regular banking houses or banks.

Section third prohibits the sale of gold, silver, or foreign exchange, unless actually delivered and paid for on delivery.

Section fourth provides the penalty for violating any provision of this act, on conviction before the United States District Court in the district where the offence is committed, to be a fine of not less than $1,000 nor more than $10,000, and an imprisonment of not less than one month, nor more than twelve months, for each offence.

Section fifth gives informers one-half of the fine.

Mr. FOOT (U.), of Vermont, introduced a bill granting public lands to the People's Pacific Railroad and Telegraph Line by the Northern route, and asked that it may be referred to a special committee.

Thanks to General Burnside.

Mr. ANTHONY (U.), of Rhode Island, submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs:

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress be, and they hereby are, presented to Major General Ambrose E. Burnside, and through him to the officers and men who have fought under his command, for their gallantry, good conduct, and soldierlike endurance.

The motions to refer the subjects embraced in the President's message were entertained, and the matters referred to their appropriate committees.

Mr. LANE (U.), of Indiana, introduced a bill to amend the act entitled "An act to define and punish conspiracies," passed July 31st, 1861, and the twenty-fourth section of the act "for enrolling and calling out the National forces," passed March 3d, 1863.

Mr. HENDRICKS (U.), of Indiana, introduced a bill to extend the time in which the States may avail themselves of the grant of land for agricultural and industrial colleges.

Exchange of Prisoners.

Mr. DAVIS (Opp.), of Kentucky, called up a resolution in relation to the exchange of prisoners, and proceeded to argue vehemently against the policy of refusing to exchange our suffering white soldiers—the languishing, starving, diseased white men—because the rebels refuse to exchange the negro captives. He denounced the policy of the Administration at length, upon the several points in which the negro is affected, characterizing its position as monstrous and referring to the present era as "the reign of Abraham the first." He averred that his own loyalty was unspotted; that he hated with undying fervor the crime of secession, and that he should ever, in seeking to avoid the evils of the rebellion, use constant vigilance not to fall into the Charybdis of Abolitionism. It was evident that this policy was only a part of that designed to perpetuate the party form of the Administration. He closed with an eloquent protest against the refusal of the Administration to liberate thousands of dying white men for the sake of a few negroes.

Mr. JOHNSON (U.), of Maryland, then addressed the Senate. He deemed it perfectly clear that humanity, which is the highest policy, demands the continuance of the exchange of prisoners. As the negroes were but few, he would suggest that an equal number of rebel prisoners should be held as hostages for the colored soldiers. He proceeded to combat the opinion of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Davis) that these men should not be protected, and corrected his views of the power of the President by quoting from the Constitution relative to the executive and legislative power. Even supposing there was no army or navy to put down the rebellion, it was still the duty of the President to execute the laws and provide the means therefor. If a foreign foe has put his foot upon these shores has not the President the right to call around him all the facilities which the power of the Government can supply? He cannot force men into the ranks, but he can call for volunteers, and has not Congress the power to call upon the slave population to the defence of the country? Though they are called property for the purpose of taxation, they are still persons. It is not essential that they should be called citizens, to be called upon. If not citizens, they are men; but being property, they must be paid for, if thus called out in pursuance of the power given to the President. In conclusion, he said the Constitution will be restored to us in its original excellence, and the men who have violated it will be held to account. But until that day comes we should with one heart and one voice exert the whole moral and physical power of the Government in putting an end, now and forever, to an ambitious, unprovoked, and treasonable attempt to destroy a Government that best ever vouchsafed to man, for, by destroying it, would be to destroy constitutional liberty itself.

The pending resolution of Mr. Davis, after a somewhat lengthy debate, was referred to the Military Committee.

After an executive session, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The SPEAKER announced the following Committee on the Rules: Messrs. Washburne, of Illinois; Mallory, of Kentucky; Littlejohn, of New York, and Cox, of Ohio.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a message from the President, most cordially recommending that Capt. John Rogers, who captured the Fingal, for his distinguished zeal, bravery, and general good conduct, should receive the vote of Congress, the preliminary being required by law, in order that he may be advanced one grade in the navy.

The President's Message.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, introduced a series of resolutions referring the various branches of the President's annual message to the appropriate committees, and that part with reference to the treatment and condition of the rebellious States to a select committee of nine, to be appointed by the Speaker.

Mr. DAVIS (U.), of Maryland, offered a substitute, that so much of the President's message as relates to the duty of the United States to guarantee to every State a republican form of government, and to those states in which the government has been abrogated or overthrown, be referred to a committee of nine members, who shall report the bills necessary to carry into effect this duty.

Mr. DAVIS, in reply to a question asked by Mr Brooks, of New York, said that the resolution offered by Mr. Stevens covered the entire subject involving the conduct of the war, what course the Government should pursue, and the treatment of the rebel States, while his own looked to a single important point—namely, the granting of a Republican Government—and he had framed his proposition in the language of the Constitution.

Mr. BROOKS (Opp.), of New York, said he was more disposed to follow the lead of the gentleman from Pennsylvania than that of the gentleman from Maryland. He was opposed to instructions to the committee, and if the proposition of the latter should be persisted in, he should be disposed to add that this special committee also inquire whether the Republican Government has not been abrogated and overthrown North, as well as South, since the revolution began.

Mr. LOVEJOY (U.), of Illinois, said, in spite of certain individuals, there still exists a Republican Government in all the States of the North, without infringement or abatement. He should follow the lead of the gentleman from Maryland, unless he should forget himself. He was for the Constitution as it is and the Union as it was, and not as it had been lately interpreted. He would dispossess the slaveholders of the Union as he would those who seized the Chesapeake. He wanted to put a loyal crew on board, and sail the good ship of the Union as our fathers framed it.

Mr. Davis' substitute was adopted—yeas 89, nays 80.

On motion of Mr. COX (Opp.), of Ohio, it was resolved that the seven additional standing committees, appointed under the rule No. 102, be directed at once to perform the duties prescribed by the said rule, and examine into the state of the accounts and expenditures of the several Departments, respectively submitted to them, and report particularly as specified in said rule; and, further, that the said committees have all the powers of committees of investigation.

Mr. Stevens' (U.) series of resolutions, as modified, were agreed to.

Mr. WASHBURNE (U.), of Illinois, offered a resolution, which was adopted, referring so much of the message as refers to emigration to a select committee of five members.

General McClellan's Report.

Mr. COX (Opp.), of Ohio, offered a resolution calling for McClellan's report on his military operations, which was taken up.

Mr. FARNSWORTH (U.) of Illinois, offered a resolution that a select committee of five members be appointed by the Speaker, to whom shall be referred all petitions or other communications having reference to the increase of railway communications or facilities between the cities of New York and Washington, and whose duty it shall be to consider and report upon that subject by bill or otherwise.

The resolution was tabled—yeas 89, nays 62.

The House then adjourned.

The Death of Lord Elgin.

The last steamer from Europe brings intelligence that a telegram had been received at the India House, in London, announcing that on the 14th ult. Lord Elgin's life had been despaired of. With the restless energy which marked his whole official career, he is reported to have taken a journey over the mountains in the season of the year most unfitted for travelling, and thus hastened his death by a heart-complaint, from which he has long been suffering.

Lord Elgin was born in London on the 20th of July, 1811, and in 1830 was one of the little group of students at Christ Church, who have since stood in the front rank of English statesmen. It was no bad training for the future legislator to be at that age the companion of such men as Sir G. C. Lewis, Lord Dalhousie, Lord Canning, and Mr. Gladstone. In 1841 he entered Parliament as a supporter of Sir Robert Peel, and in 1842 he was offered the governor-generalship of Jamaica, which position he held until 1846, performing his difficult duties with such eminent success, that he was at that time transferred to Canada. Here, then, was a man who, by his honesty and energy in the faithful performance of his duty, compelled, even from political opponents, a recognition of his ability. He labored successfully in his new sphere of action, in which he continued until his appointment as ambassador to China. Three years ago he accepted the office of Governor-general of India, and at length has been added to the long list of costly sacrifices which England has been called upon to make in maintaining her foothold upon that vast empire.

So the three men who, thirty years before, had together laid boyish plans for the future, have, one by one, been the representatives of magnificent power in the East; and, one by one, have found their advancement a fatal gift. Dalhousie dying, yielded to Canning the office which he in turn laid down at the grave only to prove alike fatal to the last, and not the least, of this remarkable trio. All through his life he was successful in his undertakings, and he was successful at the last. He owed that success not so much to great genius as to good sense, to social tact, and to a love of hard, steady work.

A LOOKOUT FOR REBEL CONSPIRACIES NEEDED.—We are reminded by the seizure of the steamer Chesapeake, of the conspiracy of the captured crew of the rebel ram Atlanta. After their capture, they, to the number of one hundred and thirty, were confined in Fort Norfolk, and made a request of Colonel Ludlow, our commissioner for exchange of prisoners at Fort Monroe, to be allowed to take the oath of allegiance and go North. The almost unanimity of the request, and the varied nationality of those making it, aroused the suspicion of Colonel Ludlow, and the request was refused, and they were sent for exchange within the rebel lines. An investigation made by Colonel Ludlow showed that this rebel crew, had their request been granted, intended to go North, to ship on different steamers, and when at sea rise upon the officers, take possession of the vessel, and goon their piratical raids.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1863.

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THE WAR POWER.

The war power is still our main reliance. So the President said, after proposing to the country a plan for the restoration of peace, and offering pardon to the people of the South. Unquestionably he is right. The success of the war is understood to be the groundwork of any plan for such a peace as we require, and until the war power has overthrown the armies of the rebellion, it will be impossible for those who are desirous of accepting the magnanimous offer of the President to make their wishes known. All proposals of peace and pledges of pardon must be preceded by a victorious army. Our Generals are our best ambassadors to the people we wish to reclaim, and where they fail our Statesmen cannot succeed. These people are, in respect to the proclamation of pardon, precisely as the slaves are to the proclamation of emancipation: they dare not accept it without gaining the assurance that the United States will protect them from the vengeance of the enemy. Within the lines of the Union army thousands of former Secessionists are eager to take the oath of allegiance, and prove by their actions the sincerity of their repentance. Beyond those lines no sign of loyalty is given. Wretched is the Southerner who, being in the power of the usurpation of Mr. DAVIS, dares to express willingness to accept the offer of the President. Therefore, a paradox easily understood, we must conquer the South to free the South; we must make the war power our main reliance in working for a permanent peace. The phantom of Peace, holding in her hand the delusion of a compromise, must not be pursued, for it leads to the reality of prolonged and fierce war. Peace, when it comes to this nation, will be in the form of a United States soldier, resting on his musket, in the capitol of Richmond.

Now that we have read the noble message of the President and studied his plan of restoration; now that we have examined the official history of the past year, we can better understand the work before us. We can clearly see that all measures concentrate in one object—the strengthening of the war power. If Congress authorized a conscription, it was to increase our armies; if it authorized the creation of a national debt, it was to sustain those armies; if it gave to the President extraordinary powers during the war, it was that he might use those armies with more energy; if we have submitted to taxation, before the rebellion unknown to us, to the loss of our friends and relatives in battle, to the draft, cheerfully accepting these misfortunes and inconveniences, it is solely because we wish to strengthen the war power. We have abandoned all hope that is not embodied in war; we have scouted the suggestion that cowardice or compromise (these are indeed the same) could bring us peace; our voice is still for war, and for the war of the giants—for war, with its thousand battles and shaking an hundred thrones; for the greatest of all wars, if that be necessary, so that in the future we shall have the purest and profoundest peace. We have accepted the Napoleonic maxim that Providence is on the side of the heaviest artillery; not irreverently, but from a conviction that Providence will always take care to give the heaviest artillery to the side which is right. It follows that in simple consistency we should cast as many guns as we can pay for.

A nation so thoroughly dependent upon war as this nation now is, cannot afford to wage war upon any scale less than Titanic. Two thousands of millions of dollars will cheaply purchase peace, and maintain a Republic worth millions of millions. No sacrifice of life can be too great if victory is obtained by it. The grave of every loyal soldier is an argument for still mightier war, for vainly have our heroes fallen if the battle they nobly begun is meanly ended. So largely has the nation invested in the war, that it is ruined if it abandons the enterprise. And if we fail, to what depth do we fall? Our national degradation will be greater than our former national glory; our shame will be perpetual, our ruin irretrievable; the sceptre of the continent will have passed from the hands of its inhabitants. Europe will govern America; the destiny of the New World will be controlled by the despotism of the Old. It is impossible to exaggerate the universal evil of failure in this war, and, therefore, impossible to strive too earnestly for success. Let the people of America look, then, to their armies. The war power of the Government is the strength of the nation, and to increase it by men, money, and measures, is to legislate for freedom and build upon enduring foundations the temple of perpetual peace.

THE CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM, Ireland, writing to the Chancellor of the English Exchequer, on the subject of the Irish exodus to America, says: "It is in vain, then, that landlords, now changing their tone, beseech their tenantry to stay; it is in vain that the obsequious scribes of a Government which so long treated them with cruelty implore them not to go. Their resolve appears determined as long as their just claims are so mercilessly unheeded. And hence the cool and stern indifference with which they leave a land that has lost for them the endearing character of a parent, and with it all the sacred attractions and security of home."

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

An arithmetical analysis of the statistics of the Secretary of the Treasury would necessarily be a restatement of the figures Mr. CHASE has so clearly arranged. Few will care to thoroughly study the details of that vast problem which he has mastered, but there are none who are not personally interested in the general result. The leading statements, and the argument of the report, can be, and should be, fully understood by every intelligent citizen, for the financial administration underlies all other administration, and upon the solvency of the Government depends the future of the country. Too much importance, therefore, cannot be attached to this report, which so faithfully exhibits the condition of the national finances, and points out the only method by which their present prosperity, in defiance of increasing debt, can be maintained.

Time has vindicated the principles upon which Mr. CHASE founded his extraordinary system. The measures advised by him and sanctioned by Congress have relieved the treasury from all danger of exhaustion; have supplied the Government with the means of paying the expenses of the war, and have not embarrassed the business of the country. The rebellion forced upon the nation enormous debt, but the principles upon which that debt has been contracted, the provisions made for its payment, are so sound that to bear it honorably and prosperously will require no sacrifice that cannot easily be made by a wealthy and resolute people. The Atlas that supports the war is not crushed by his burden, and it is but justice to say of Mr. CHASE, that his far-seeing wisdom, his prudence and power in the financial administration of the past three years have so much lightened the load, that what might have been ruin is transformed into success. He has accomplished a task which might have baffled a ROTHSCHILD. If to-day we find ourselves happy and prosperous, our armies victorious, the credit of our Government respected at home and abroad, Mr. CHASE must have no ordinary share of the gratitude. Good has sprung from the bitter root of debt. In Oriental countries the women who bear heavy burdens on their heads are straighter and stronger for the habit, and we, called upon to sustain unprecedented moral and material adversity, have already been made a nobler and a better people for the responsibility.

The report satisfactorily shows that the income and the expenditure of the Government have been so nearly balanced in the past, that no doubt of its ability to prosecute the war vigorously in the future can be justly entertained. It also shows that the increase of debt will be less than the country had just reason to expect. Mr. CHASE'S estimates are not undervaluations; on the contrary, the element of misfortune always enters into his calculations; and when he states the present and probable future condition of the national finances, we know that the worst is revealed. Upon no other principle could any department of Mr. LINCOLN'S Administration have retained public confidence. It is especially gratifying to find this perfect candor in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

In contracting unavoidable debt, the Secretary has aimed at its distribution among the greatest possible number of holders. Thence the establishment of the national currency, and the distribution of bonds. Mr. CHASE truly says of the five-twenty loan, that "the history of the world may be searched in vain for a parallel case of popular financial support to a national government." The distribution of bonds to an amount of nearly four hundred millions of dollars is proof of the confidence of the people in the strength and solvency of their Government, and of the ability of the Government to procure all the money necessary for the present, by borrowing alone. But here a point suggests itself which strikingly shows the prudence of our financial administration, and that true economy which will not provide for the present at the entire expense of the future. Mr. CHASE must yield to the necessity of providing for further expenditure by further loans, for other methods are by themselves insufficient. "No prudent man will recommend economy at the expense of efficiency," says the report, and very truly, for nothing could be more disgracefully extravagant than to pause to-day, while victory awaits us to-morrow. The greatness of our gain compels greatness in further effort, otherwise we have incurred a debt of over one thousand millions to no good, and the nation has lost the precious investment of blood and money it has already made. But Mr. CHASE as fully understands the evils of absolute dependence on credit, as the evils of extreme economy. He firmly refuses to yield to the perpetual temptation to increase the issue of United States notes, and believes that our debt should not be our master, but our servant.

Therefore, the Secretary of the Treasury urges upon Congress the necessity of providing for expenditure by increased taxation. Upon this provision depends our future prosperity. Revenue must approximate expenditure. "A system of taxation certain to produce a sufficient revenue to pay the whole ordinary expenses of the Government, in times of peace, and the entire interest on the public debt, and to create a gradually increasing fund for the redemption of its principal"—this, Mr. CHASE, in 1861 declared indispensable. In 1863 its necessity is even more apparent, for what was then a theory is now a fact. Congress cannot too early address itself to a revision of the internal revenue law, and should not commit the error of the last session, in taxing too lightly profitable manufactures and commodities. The inequalities of that law should be removed, and its application enlarged. The internal revenue should reach the original estimate of one hundred and fifty millions a year, and the wisdom and energies of Congress should immediately be given to the subject.

These are the leading points of a report from which its author says many things are necessarily omitted, but which to us seems exhaustive of its subject. Closely argued and clearly expressed, embodying the only true principles of financial integrity, and recording facts in the highest degree honorable to the loyalty of the people, it is a document which cannot fail to confirm and increase the trust in the wisdom and integrity of Mr. LINCOLN'S Administration. Not merely as the first representative of the people, nobly executing their will, nor only as the statesman who has decided by a master-stroke (so great that we know not if it be honesty or genius) the mighty problem of reconstruction, is the President so emphatically the master of the situation. Seldom has he shown more sagacity than in the selection of his officers, and not only his Administration, but the country, will gain honor from the unrivalled financial ability of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the strength and beauty of the great system he has established.

A Glance at the Future.

As, in these first fair days of winter, the eyes of the North, glowing with the gladness of prosperity, survey the richness of her agricultural homes, the growth of her trade and manufactures, her varied, successful efforts in sea and river navigation, the inventions and improvements in her mechanic arts, the unrivalled activity in her professional pursuits, and, above all, the achievements of her well-tried armies—achievements which stretch with far-reaching arms into the future, and which in their results embrace all time—they wax wondrously expectant; beholding the broad sea of vision thus spread before them, they proudly, encouragingly smile upon the stalwart uplifted hands of the loyal; they foresee the imminent eternal destruction of rebellion, in all its horrid and unnatural forms.

When, in the stillness of reflection, we recall the events of centuries ago, picturing to ourselves the panoramic past of barbaric, or of classic, but very commonly of war-like ages, we inadvertently compare that past with this present, and contrast nations obsolete or sadly dwindled away, not so much with other nations of the present era, as with our own. Through all the turmoil and anguish which have been ours, with the full knowledge of plenty of foes without, but with the compensating consciousness of not one solitary fear within, we have confidently fought. We have battled for a future more glorious than ever the past has been, and we desire no augurs, or oracles, or divinations to ambiguously foretell what common sense alone should teach us is inevitable. The future is a quarry whence busy hands will sculpture shapes of matchless beauty; the present is but the portico to the temple soon to be dedicated to the cause of universal liberty. To the unsympathizing, language like this may afford subject for all the sarcasm they are capable of. Be it so. There is such abundant reason to regard ourselves at this era not only with hope, but with confident expectation; such strength remaining in those very resources which have been so largely drawn upon already, such a clinging love to the cause which the rebels impotently curse, such a dead-set animosity to that which they espouse, such an unity of feeling between all who deserve the sacred title of loyal men, and such a tranquil trust in the destiny of the United States, if for no other reason than that it is the United States, that to brood for a moment on an impossible dark side should seem incomprehensibly unnatural and absurd.

Those versed in history would remind us of the rise and downfall of Assyria, Babylon, the Empire of the Medes and Persians, and so on. But we are neither Assyria nor Babylon, and those who founded the mighty empires of the past, which have long since dwindled into less than nothingness, never looked to the possibility of the existence of such a Government as ours; a Government founded upon the wisdom of all antiquity; a Constitution to which none that exists, or ever existed, is comparable; a nation which, when other nations differently founded would yet be in infancy, is striding on in young manhood; a past which is full of glory, and without reproach; a present which, though over-clouded, it is true, by a fearful trial, is yet settling forever a question of incalculable importance—can it be possible that a future should lie before us incompatible with these constituents?

We throw out these few thoughts because we think they embody the sentiments of all loyal hearts. It is not necessary to *appeal* to such, for they need no appeal. Their breasts are fructifying soils, where the roots of liberty strike deep, and over which the boughs of freedom scatter their all-embracing protection.

A New Navy Yard for Iron-Clad Vessels.

The selection of a site for the establishment of a new navy yard suitable for the construction and repair of iron-clad vessels is earnestly recommended by the Secretary of the Navy, and will no doubt receive early attention from Congress. The Delaware river has certain claims in this connection, which are nowhere more fairly and emphatically acknowledged than in the report of Secretary WELLES. With this endorsement, the great interests of our city and State have double force in urging upon our Representatives such vigorous action as will secure this indispensable result. The fresh-water of our river, its safe and ample harborage, its great commercial port and metropolis, the vast mechanical and industrial resources, and coal and iron wealth of our city and State, offer a thousand advantages in favor of this vicinity above all others. These advantages are unopposed by a single objection, and neither our city nor the Government can afford to disregard them. The subject of "A New Navy Yard and Establishment for Iron-clad Vessels and Machinery" is thus plainly presented in the report of the Secretary of the Navy:

In consequence of the omission of Congress to take any action on the subject of enlarging the present circumscribed navy yard at Philadelphia, or to signify its acceptance or rejection of League Island, tendered to the Government for naval purposes by the city of Philadelphia, or in conformity with my suggestions to initiate means for establishing a suitable yard, workshops, and docks for an iron navy and the machinery and armature which modern improvements render necessary, no progress has been possible during the year on that important subject. The Government is destitute of a suitable establishment for the construction or repair of iron vessels, their machinery or armature, nor has it any place for preserving them when laid up in ordinary. Some proper and suitable accommodations for vessels of this description are necessary where there is fresh water, and, as stated in my communications to the last Congress, it has appeared to me that no place combines so many advantages as are to be found on the Delaware, in the vicinity of Philadelphia. A commission of naval and scientific gentlemen was appointed under the authority of Congress to examine League Island, and also to "make a survey and examination of the harbor of New London, Connecticut, and its surroundings, with reference to its capacity and fitness for a naval dépôt and navy yard, and whether the public interest will not be promoted by establishing a naval dépôt and navy yard in or near said harbor of New London, instead of League Island, and that they also make the same investigation in regard to the waters of Narraganset Bay." The majority of this board recommended the establishment of an additional navy yard at New London. On that subject it is unnecessary that the Department should express an opinion. It is a question for Congress which instituted the inquiry, to decide whether an additional navy yard on the old plan is wanted at New London, and, should it be in the affirmative, it will be the duty of this Department to carry that decision, when made, into effect.

But, aside from and independent of the question of an additional navy yard, is that of more extended accommodations and more ample facilities on the Delaware than we now have in the narrow and wholly insufficient limits of the navy yard at Philadelphia. Those limits, as stated by the chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks in his able and practical report, can be enlarged to about double the present area by purchase, at an expense of about $300 000; but, with that addition, the yard would still be wholly inadequate to the public necessities, and too small for such an extensive establishment as the wants of the Government require. It would undoubtedly be the part of wisdom and true economy to procure ground with ample water front for such an establishment as the increasing public wants demand, in the vicinity of Philadelphia; and, so soon as it can be made available, to dispose of the present grounds, and apply the proceeds towards improving the new location.

The chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, whose experience and judgment entitle his opinions to consideration, suggests another locality than League Island—at Marcus Hook, a few miles below Philadelphia, on the right bank of the Delaware, which he supposes may, perhaps, be procured at a reasonable rate. From the examination which I have been enabled to give this subject, I am not prepared to say that the advantages are, to my mind, such as to counterbalance those attainable at League Island, which has been tendered to the Government for its acceptance, nor is there assurance that land near Marcus Hook can be procured at any price. Either place, however, might, I apprehend, be satisfactory, and, as I have already stated to Congress, there is no doubt that, for the purposes of a navy yard, and establishment for an iron navy and its wants, the banks of the Delaware present advantages that are not to be found elsewhere in the United States. Prompt and judicious action by the legislative branch of the Government upon this subject, is, in my judgment, urgently needed, and will, when it shall have been had, be carried into effect by this Department with all possible activity.

As will be seen, Secretary WELLES repeatedly recommends the Delaware river and the vicinity of Philadelphia. In the question between New London and League Island, the latter has a superiority which it would be preposterous to dispute. For the harborage of iron-clads fresh water is of absolute necessity, and a great navy yard should be in instant reach of a great centre of labor, skill, and material. In a large public spirit, our municipal authorities have offered three hundred acres of land to the Government, and this fact is another argument in favor of League Island. Leaving this aside, larger accommodations than those of our present narrow navy yard are a pressing requirement. Even when enlarged, its limits will not be sufficient, and the purchase of a new ground and water front is recommended to Congress.

Every one practically acquainted with our navy yard can appreciate the justice of this suggestion, which is not a moment premature.

The whole question of a new navy yard is now virtually confined to a choice of places upon the Delaware. In default of League Island, the Chief of Yards and Docks recommends the vicinity of Marcus Hook, a few miles below Chester. This site appears to possess no merits counterbalancing League Island, while there are doubtless places nearer to Philadelphia, whose proximity to population and railroad convenience would prove important, and where owners would be willing to give property for the sake of accruing interests. But the liberal donation of the three hundred acres composing League Island is added to its merits of accommodation and position, and will command chief attention. This subject is now fully and directly before the public, and it will depend upon our Representatives to secure alike the best interests of the city, State, and country.

European Affairs.

The affairs of Europe are becoming complicated. The sudden death of the King of Denmark has added to the trouble. Dying without any near relation to succeed him, his crown has been assumed by Prince CHRISTIAN, (father of the Princess of Wales and of the new King of Greece,) who really is a German, not a Danish prince, but was selected by several of the leading Powers, eleven years ago, to be heir-presumptive,—though the Danish Legislature took two years to consent to the nomination. The new King, it appears, has been coldly accepted by "his subjects" in Copenhagen, many of the public functionaries there having declined to swear allegiance to him. Under the patronage of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, cousin and brother-in-law to Queen VICTORIA, the Prince of Augustenburg claims the succession to the duchy of Schleswig-Holstein, hitherto belonging to Denmark, and it is more than probable that this will have to be decided by resort to arms. England's difficulty will be great:—she is to support King CHRISTIAN, of Denmark, whose nomination she assisted to obtain twelve years ago, and whose fair daughter will one day be Queen-Consort of Great Britain, or will she side with the Grand-Duke of Saxe-Coburg, who wishes to curtail the dominions of Denmark, by taking away the Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein?

It seems to have been decided by the British Cabinet, after much deliberation, that England has notified to France a refusal to assist in the Congress proposed by the Emperor NAPOLEON. It is declared that Austria positively declines participating in this gathering of sovereigns, and that Russia has requested a programme of the subjects to be discussed, with a conditional promise to assist, after peace shall have been restored, by the submission or subjection of Poland—either contingency, it is obvious, being apparently rather remote. The other great Powers are not unwilling to go into this Congress, the actual object of which is to form a new partnership, as it were; and, on the new agreement being formally "signed, sealed, and delivered," to tear in two the Viennese Treaty of 1815, by which the Bonaparte family were placed under the ban of Europe. It is as if a man who had become rich and respectable should seek to have his conviction and sentence, as a larcenist or burglar, expunged or obliterated. The political events of the last thirty-five years have so changed the boundaries of many States, that a new political map of Europe may be necessary.

It may be suspected that, if any other man than Earl RUSSELL were Foreign Minister now, England would not refuse to assist in the new Congress of Paris. But, in case of acquiescence, Earl RUSSELL would claim, as a right, to be England's representative there, against which two objections might be made, that he made a great failure, as political negotiator at Vienna, in 1855, and that he has the disadvantage of being unable to speak or write French, the language which will be used by every one at the Congress.

The proximate retirement of Earl RUSSELL, lately reported as probable, is now denied. His colleagues will not be averse to his remaining in office until after Parliament has had a discussion, and pronounced an opinion upon his policy, as regards Poland, Denmark, and Japan. Lord RUSSELL is tenacious of office, relishing its dignity, pocketing its emoluments, and dispensing its patronage. He has been allowed cord enough since last July, and the usual result will soon be apparent. PALMERSTON, who was turned out of office by him at Christmas, 1851, cannot have much affection for Earl RUSSELL, and, it may well be believed, would not break his heart if this minikin Minister were ejected from office; but PALMERSTON will let events gravitate to their own result.

War Poetry.

It has been frequently noted that the war has produced very little good poetry. The war poems of Mr. George H. Boker are certainly very fine; Whittier has written some admirable verses, Mrs. Martha Cook some that are very bad, and innumerable stanzas about the war are published in the newspapers. Still, it is evident that no poem worthy of the war has been written. Why? We do not propose to answer. But it is dispiriting to see how so many great occasions are slighted, and how much ridiculous rhyme is associated with our noblest victories. At the great war meeting in New York, on Thursday evening, the banners displayed on the platform, waving over the heads of such men as General Sickles, Mayor Opdyke, James T. Brady, Judges Dean, Kelley, and Daly, were disfigured by such paltry couplets as

"Our columns rush where'er our banners lead,
And every heart responsive beats for Meade."

And of Grant,

"The captured heights of Chattanooga prove—
What in the name of all prosiness do they prove?
"This readiness on rebel works to move."
All honor is given to General Hooker,
"Who planted his banner on the cloud-capped height,
And won new glory in the mountain fight."
Of the Stars and Stripes it is brilliantly said,
"They tell the story
Of a nation's glory."
Then a startling contrast is given:
"Bragg, the great retreater,
Grant, the great defeater."

Where were the bards of eminence in the clothing business, when these lines were written? Where was Spangler, the national poet of America? In the name of Apollo, if we cannot induce our Longfellows, and Whittiers, and Bryants, to write poetry on flags, let respectable puff-writers be employed—no matter how exorbitant their charges.

In the meanwhile, we would suggest the following as worthy of the consideration of managers of patriotic meetings:

Thomas and Grant went up the hill
To get at the Chickamauga;
Bragg fell down and he broke his crown,
And Grant came tumbling after.

Or if rhyme is absolutely required, we might inscribe a splendid banner with the following:

There was a little rebel, and he had a little gun,
And the bullet was made of lead;
And he went across the brook, and he saw a little Hook-
er, who shot him through the head.

Or this might do for emancipation and finances:

Sing a song of greenbacks,
Gold's going down, say I;
Four hundred thousand black men
Baked in a pie.
When the pie was open'd,
The men began to fight;
Wasn't this a pretty way
To serve the master right!

Freedom to the colored man might also be gloriously celebrated thus:

Little Jeff Davis has lost his slaves,
And he doesn't know where to find 'em;
(Sarcastically.)
Oh! let 'em alone; they'll all come home
With their little tails behind em.

We earnestly assure the poets of America, that if they do not at once begin to write respectable war poetry, we shall be forced to publish a volume of verse similar to this for the purpose of vindicating the National muse.

Loyalty and Heroism of Colored Americans.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: The negro has never had an equal chance with the white man in this country, having been generally denied the common rights of humanity. Though he has been an inhabitant almost as long as the white man, and has done much for its welfare, yet he has not been treated so well as the foreigner, even in the free States. There is much truth and force in what a highly-respected colored clergyman of New York said a few years since: "We are natives of this country; we ask only to be treated as well as *foreigners*. Not a few of our fathers suffered and bled to purchase its independence; we only ask to be treated as well as those who fought against it. We have toiled to cultivate it, and to raise it to its present prosperous condition; we only ask to share equal privileges with those who come from distant lands to enjoy the fruits of our labor."

Notwithstanding the treatment that the colored man has received in this country, yet he has displayed a high degree of loyalty and bravery. Treason and cowardice can by no means be charged to colored Americans, though they have had so little, comparatively, to call out the opposite qualities. Glancing at the facts that the history of the past can furnish on this subject, who can doubt for a moment that the millions of colored men in this country can render most effective service towards suppressing the existing rebellion with the opportunity afforded them, and the powerful motive of *freedom* unequivocally presented before them.

The first martyr to liberty in the Revolution was a colored man by the name of Crispus Attucks. He was the first man shot by the British soldiers in the Boston massacre of March 5th, 1770, which occurred on King (now State) street.

There were several colored soldiers at the battle of Bunker Hill, among whom was one by the name of Salem. Particular allusion is made to him by Swett, in his "Sketches" of that battle. He says: "Major Pitcairn caused the first effusion of blood at Lexington. In that battle his horse was shot under him, while he was separated from his troops. With presence of mind, he feigned himself slain. His pistols were taken from his holsters, and he was left for dead, when he seized the opportunity and escaped. He appeared at Bunker Hill, and," says the historian, "among those who mounted the works was the gallant Major Pitcairn, who exultingly cried out, 'The day is ours!' when a black soldier named Salem shot him through, and he fell. His agonized son received him in his arms, and tenderly bore him to the boats. A contribution was made in the army for the colored soldier, and he was presented to Washington as having performed this feat."

In the Revolution there was a colored company called the "Bucks of America" that rendered most valuable service. At the close of that struggle John Hancock presented them with an appropriate banner, bearing his initials, as an expression of his appreciation of their patriotism and bravery. The "Bucks," commanded by Col. Middleton, were invited to a collation in a neighboring town, and, while on their way, were requested to halt in front of the Hancock mansion, on Beacon street, where the Governor and his son united in presenting the banner.

At the commencement of the War of the Revolution, Rhode Island had quite a number of slaves, but she knew how to make good use of them. A regiment of them was formed, and no braver men went into battle than they were. They were not, however, permitted to become soldiers until they were first emancipated, and their freedom pledged to them forever. In the gallant defence of Red Bank that regiment bore a most honorable part. In that struggle four hundred men met and repulsed, after a terrible slaughter, fifteen hundred Hessian troops, headed by Count Donop.

The capability of the blacks to render valuable services as soldiers, was acknowledged at the Revolutionary period at the South, as well as at the North. In 1779 a convention of delegates from South Carolina and the special envoy from Georgia suggested "that a force might be raised in the said State from among the negroes, which would not only be formidable to the enemy, from their numbers, and the discipline of which they would readily admit, but would also lessen the dangers from revolts and desertions by detaching the most vigorous and enterprising of the negroes."

In the beginning the Georgia delegates gave to John Adams, as recorded in his diary at the time, "a melancholy account of the States of Georgia and South Carolina. They said if one thousand regular troops should land in Georgia, their commander be provided with arms and clothes enough, and proclaim *freedom to all the negroes* who would join his camp, twenty thousand negroes would join it from the two Provinces in a fortnight. The negroes having a wonderful art of conveying intelligence among themselves, it will run several hundred miles in a week or fortnight."

The fact that colored Americans rendered important service in that contest, several leading men North and South have acknowledged, who could not be accused of special anti-slavery tendencies. Charles Pinckney, of South Carolina, in his speech on the Missouri question, and in defence of the slave representation of the South, said: "They (the slaves) then were, as they still are, as valuable a part of our population to the Union as any other equal number of the inhabitants. They were in numerous instances the pioneers, and in all the labors of your armies. To their hands were owing the greater part of the fortifications raised for the protection of our country. Fort Moultrie gave, at an early period of the inexperience and untried valor of our citizens, immortality to American arms, and in the Northern States numerous bodies of them were enrolled and fought, *side by side with the whites*, the battles of the Revolution."

Mr. Martindale, a member of Congress from New York, in a speech delivered in 1828, spoke in high terms of what colored men had done, and said: "Slaves, or negroes who had been slaves, were enlisted as soldiers in the war of the Revolution; and I myself saw a battalion of them, as fine martial-looking men as I ever saw attached to the Northern army, in the last war, on its march from Plattsburg to Sackett's Harbor."

The loyal and heroic acts of colored men in the last war with England are familiar to some minds, but ought to be more generally known. They reflected honor on themselves, both on the land and in the navy.

Captain Perry, writing to Commodore Chauncey, the senior officer, said: "The men that came by Mr. Champlin are a motley set—blacks, soldiers, and boys. I am, however, pleased to *see anything in the shape of a man*." In the letter written by Commodore Chauncey in reply, this passage is found: "*I have nearly fifty blacks on board this ship, and many of them are among my best men.*"

The bravery of colored soldiers at the battle of New Orleans did not suffer in the least degree in comparison with that of their white companions in arms. The testimony of Hon. Robert C. Winthrop to this is of great weight, especially when it is remembered that his course has never excited the suspicion that he was particularly tinctured with Abolitionism. In a speech in Congress, in 1850, on the "imprisonment of colored seamen," he declared: "I believe that I shall be borne out in saying that no regiments did better service at New Orleans, than did the black regiments, which were organized under the direction of General Jackson himself, after a most glorious appeal to the patriotism and honor of the people of color of that region; and which, after they came out of the war, received the thanks of General Jackson, in a proclamation which has been thought worthy of being inscribed on the pages of history."

The truly wise derive lessons from the history of the past, as well as from the living present, to guide them in their course of action. Do not these lessons teach us that we should avail ourselves of the services of 4,000,000 of colored Americans in the South to preserve our national existence? We trust that more and more efficient steps will be taken to bring this about. This should be done, not as a matter of mere military necessity, but as a matter of *right*; and then we shall not only secure them on our side, but God himself. A good beginning has been made in this direction, but we should remember that it is only a beginning. The rebels dread the movement that has been commenced in this direction. They know, and the worst Copperheads must now acknowledge, that the negroes will fight when they have a proper opportunity.

I am, sir, very respectfully yours, P.

The O'Donoghue on the American War.

The last number of the Dublin *Nation* contains a reply to Smith O'Brien from The O'Donoghue, who seems to be anxious that the American people may not look upon the sentiments of Smith O'Brien as the sentiments of the Irish people. He says, in the course of a long letter:

Our population is already fearfully, alarmingly reduced—every man who leaves is a national loss. I feel this, and accordingly my advice to my countrymen has invariably been—stop at home, put your trust in God, and await with patience the inevitable hour. But if there are among us, as there are, many young and enthusiastic men, who repine and sicken amid the decay and misery of our oppressed land, and who have resolved to go to America, while bidding them farewell with unfeigned sorrow, to them I say, with a fearless disregard for the insinuations of cant—when you become American citizens you will not cease to be Irishmen, you will not forget the poor old land, who, with all her shame upon her, is still your mother, remember; and these are my last words—if you would accelerate the hour of her redemption, *take your stand in the ranks of the defenders of the Union, and help to restore unity, prosperity, and greatness to America.*

From the time the first shot was fired at Fort Sumpter till the present, President Lincoln and his Cabinet have had to choose between peace, bringing with it the dismemberment of the Republic, and a vigorous prosecution of the war, with every prospect of ultimately *beating down the demon of Secession*. In following up this latter policy they have been well sustained, and are still well sustained, as the late elections prove, by the great majority of the American people.

But we are told that if, in 1861, the Irish population of the States had thrown their influence into the scale of peace—that is, had refused to fight—the miseries of war would have been averted.

Does any one mean to assert that, by the refusal of the Irish population to fight, the North would have been reconciled to Secession, or the South been induced to come back into the Union?

This is too ridiculous. I conceive that the Irish population of the States, from long residence, from natural sympathy, from reciprocity of interest, has become so thoroughly American, so completely identified with the mass of those among whom its lot has been cast, as to be literally unable to isolate itself or take action separate from the rest of the community on any question affecting the honor or safety of America. And I cannot imagine that the Irish population has as yet become so potent an element of transatlantic society as to be, in fact, the arbitrator of the destiny of an immense continent. Considering all the circumstances of their position, and all they owe to America, it would have been impossible for the Irish to have stood aloof without disgracing themselves and their country to the end of time. Nothing could justify conduct the result of which would have been so disastrous to their benefactors.

The Mystic.

BY TENNYSON.

Rev. M. D. Conway writes to the *Commonwealth*: "I have lately been reading with pleasure some poems of Tennyson's, which are not, I believe, found in either the English or American editions of his poems. I copy for you one which was printed whilst he was a student at Cambridge, but has been left out of his volumes; why, I know not."

Angels have talked with him, and showed him thrones:
Ye knew him not: he was not one of ye,
Ye scorned him with an undiscerning scorn;
Ye could not read the marvel in his eye,
The still, serene abstraction: he hath felt
The vanities of after and before;
Albeit his spirit and his secret heart,
The stern experiences of converse lives,
The linked woes of many a fiery change
Had purified, and chastened, and made free.
Always there stood before him, night and day,
Of wayward, varicolored circumstance
The imperishable presences serene,
Colossal, without form, or sense, or sound,
Dim shadows but unwaning presences,
Four-faced to four corners of the sky;
And, yet again, three shadows, fronting one,
One forward, one respectant, three but one;
And yet again, again and evermore,
For the two first were not, but only seemed,
One shadow in the midst of a great light,
One reflex from eternity on time,
One mighty countenance of perfect calm,
Awful with most invariable eyes.
For him the silent congregated hours,
Daughters of Time, divinely tall, beneath
Severe and youthful brows, with shining eyes
Smiling a godlike smile (the innocent light
Of earliest youth pierced through and through with all
Keen knowledges of low embowed eld)
Upheld, and ever hold aloft the cloud
Which droops low-hung on either gate of life,
Both birth and death: he in the centre fix'd,
Saw, far on each side, through the grated gates,
Most pale and clear and lovely distances.
He, often lying broad awake, and yet
Remaining from the body, and apart
In intellect and power and will, both heard
Time flowing in the middle of the night,
And all things creeping to a day of doom.
How could ye know him? Ye were yet within
The narrower circle; he had well nigh reach'd
The last, which, with a region of white flame,
Pure without heat, into a larger air
Upburning, and an ether of black blue,
Investeth and ingirds all other lives.

ESCAPE OF MORGAN—WHAT HE IS TO DO.—The Louisville (Kentucky) *Democrat*, of Friday, noticing the arrest of two of John Morgan's officers, near that city, adds:

"The prisoners state that Morgan, with six captains, escaped from the prison, and that Morgan with the other officers, got upon the train at Columbus within fifteen minutes after he made his escape, and came this way. They were detained, and stayed in an old shed until the following night, when they started. They say that Morgan and the other officers were ahead of them, and that it was the intention of Morgan to cross the Cumberland river Wednesday night.

"It is rumored that Morgan is to have command of the different bands of guerillas in this State, whom will be concentrated on the south bank of the Cumberland river, and that as soon as they can be got together he will make a raid through the State, and probably strike the Louisville and Nashville Railroad."

Execution of a Parricide at Mount Holly, N. J.

A Fearful Record of Crime.

A YOUTH KILLS HIS FATHER AT THE SUGGESTION OF HIS MOTHER.

SCENE AT THE SCAFFOLD.

[Special Report to The Press.]

On Friday of last week, Charles H. Brooke, convicted of the murder of his father near Vincentown, N. J., on the 12th March, 1863, paid the penalty of his crime with his life. He was publicly hanged in the yard of the Mount Holly jail in the presence of about five hundred persons. The career of the youthful murderer is calculated to fill one with horror and dismay that there should throb in this enlightened age a heart so wicked and depraved.

Since the commission of the murder, there has scarcely been any other topic discoursed upon in the locality, and has filled all who heard it with consternation. His father, Job Brooke, was an honest farmer of Vincentown, possessed of a comfortable farm and dwelling. The property was scarcely sufficient to excite the cupidity of an ordinary felon, for the recompense was too small for the risk to be undertaken, in taking foul measures to procure it. The young man was about twenty-three years old, of fine personal appearance, robust, healthy, and with more than ordinarily intelligent appearance. His parents were not friendly-disposed towards each other, and the boy grew up into manhood embued with no respect for the authors of his being. His sister married a man named Timothy Ridgway, who, it is said, was anxious to get rid of "the old man," that Tim. and Charles should enjoy the farm. For many months, as the parricide confessed on the scaffold, he was continually coaxed by Ridgway to kill the father, and the deed was postponed from time to time, because the youthful Brooke could not surmount the compunctions of his conscience. The mother, as it would appear from the confession, was equally implicated, and horrible to say, offered her son $75 if he would but kill his father! It was finally agreed between Ridgway and Brooke that they should follow the old man to church, and dispatch him on his return home. Old Brooke left the church in company with his lady friends, from whom he parted at a cross-road. Then followed the two men, as confessed by young Brooke; he himself went forward in the darkness of the road and hit his father with a thick club, rendering him senseless. Ridgway was to have followed and stabbed the wounded man. He did not come, however, and the awful murder was completed by the son, who argued that it was cruel to leave the "job half done." At the trial, young Brooke stated that no one was concerned in the foul deed but himself, and thus his mother and Ridgway escaped justice. Ridgway has since enlisted, and is serving in the 29th New Jersey Regiment. A few days ago the prisoner confessed his guilt, and wrote out his story in his cell, at considerable length. He thus speaks of the horrible murder:

I have been coaxed ever since November, in 1861, to do that murder on my father. I told Tim that I did not want to kill him, for he never done anything out of the way to kill him for. I went off to work on a farm again. When I did not go home for two or three weeks, he would ask mother where I was, that I didn't come home. After I did go home, mother would tell me Tim wanted to see me—he wanted to see me for something particular. I would go and see him. All his talk was about putting the old man out of the way. I was picked at and tormented about it so much for the last eighteen months, before I done this dreadful murder, that I would rather meet a rattlesnake any time, than my father.

When I left him at Irick's lane-end he wanted to know if I would do that to-night; I told him that we had better put it off for a few weeks; I wanted to go over to Pemberton, to-morrow morning, to go to work; I promised Jacob Seeds that I would come over to-morrow morning to go to work for him; I told him to get rid of him; that I would come over some night and do it; he says, "You told me that when you lived at Butterworth's, and never done it;" I told him that I would come over some night, for they would judge me for it if I do it to-night; he said they would not judge me; I would be the last one that ever would be judged; he says: "Charley, if you will put him out of the way to-night I will help you do it; I will meet you at the corner of the lot and help you put him away; you can go to Mount Holly to-morrow and make yourself lively, and I will go over and go to work, as common, and people will not mistrust that anything is the matter."

I was walking along with my father and talking; he said there was some one coming behind; I looked back; I thought I saw Timothy Ridgway coming behind; I ran up and struck him three or four times, and run up to the house and put the stick on the wood-pile and come back, and there was no one there, and I had to finish him; after I had put him in the ditch, I went to the house, and went up stairs to bed to take my natural rest; after I had been in bed about five minutes, the window frames began to rattle, and I could not sleep; I was in agony all night, so that I could not rest; I laid in bed till morning, but did not sleep more than two hours all night; I got up next morning, and went out and cut off some wood; while I was cutting the wood, every time that I would look down the road, the tears would begin to float in my eyes, so that I could not work; I would have to quit, and have a crying spell about it.

After I got enough wood cut off to last that day, I went into the house to get my breakfast. After breakfast I started for Mount Holly, on the road from our own residence to Eayrestown. Before I got to the forks of the road, by Franklin Deacon's, my heart failed me so that I had to sit down. I sat there for fifteen minutes in the joint of fence. When I got up the ground was wet with tears. I got up and started down to Eayrestown, stopped at the saw-mill and talked with Joseph Wilson. While I was talking with Wilson I hadn't the heart to look him in the face. I started for Mount Holly. After I got to Holly I had to run about from one place to another; as soon as I sat down a few minutes the tears would begin to float in my eyes. I went to Pemberton with William Sapp. There was some young ladies there that I knew. I tried to make myself lively with them, but my heart was in my mouth and the tears were in my eyes, so that I had to leave them.

After I had my trial, before Tim could get me to come out and say that I knew nothing about it, he wanted me to kill myself, for they was only keeping me for a witness against him—then they was agoing to hang me. He found out that he could not get me to kill myself, then he wanted me to break jail and run away. I told him that I could not get out of here. He told me to take my case-knife and nick it on the edge, and saw the bars off, and take my blankets, and make a rope of them to get over the wall with.

He has wanted me to coax mother to poison father to death, for she could do it better than what we could; she could take and put it into his coffee, and no one would know what was the matter with him.

THE EXECUTION.

There was a great demand for admission to the jail, to witness the execution, and Sheriff Lippincott was obliged to have tickets printed as follows:

EXECUTION OF
CHARLES H. BROOKS,
December 11th, 1863.
PASS THE BEARER.

The yard was densely filled with people, there being no females in the audience, except such as could peep through the windows of the jail, where they were held for crime. The unhappy mother of Brooke was not present. Brooke walked to the scaffold without a sigh or tremor, and in answer to a query from the sheriff whether he had anything to say, replied with no signs of fear, in a ten-minutes' speech.

I have been coaxed into this thing. They gave me no peace, and told me if the old man was out of the way I could get along better. Timothy Ridgway was always at me to do it. I was intoxicated at the time, and did not know what I was doing until it was too late. I struck the old man on the head, and Tim Ridgway cut his throat. I had been coaxed, and almost hired, to do this deed, and they ought to be here instead of me. Tim had a good deal of influence over me and mother, and I was coaxed ever since November, 1861. On the Sunday after, I went over to Ridgway's, and Tim wanted me to run away. He said they were going to take me up. I told him I had no money nor clothes to go away with. He said mother had plenty of money. I told him she needed that to live on. He told me to never mind that—he would take good care that she should have plenty to eat and wear.

Since I was brought back he told me if I would come out and say I didn't know anything about the murder, they would give me a new trial. Mother offered me $75 to do the deed. I was coaxed into it, and they that coaxed are clear, when they ought to be standing here to-day where I am. Mother often talked about it, and went to the fortune-tellers, and they told her many ways to get rid of the old man. I would not be here to-day if it was not for two rascals, or whatever you may call them.

When Brooke had ceased speaking, the Rev. Mr. Lawrence approached him, and after reading the fifty-first Psalm they knelt upon the platform, while the Rev. gentleman offered an appropriate prayer. During the prayer Brooke was seen to observe closely the mechanism of the gallows.

At twenty minutes past twelve the sheriff drew down the fatal cap, and the unhappy youth had given the last look at earthly things. A brief, terrible moment of suspense—the rope is carefully adjusted—suddenly the weights fall—a body swings before our eyes—its soul is in eternity. Six hundred spectators realize that "The wages of Sin is *death!*"

CHRISTIAN COMMISSION ON THE BATTLE-FIELD.—The importance and efficiency of this institution as a present help to our men on the battle-field, was shown recently in the Army of the Potomac. During the late advance of that army, after the fight at Mine Run, in which the 3d Army Corps was engaged, the delegates of the Christian Commission were promptly on the ground, and with their own hands ministered to the wants of the wounded, supplying them with such delicacies and stimulants as they required.

The field agent of the Commission in a recent letter says: "We have been fully occupied in helping some six hundred wounded men of the 3d Army Corps. We fed them with coffee, milk punch, crackers, &c. The men were very thankful, and seemed unable to find words sufficiently strong to express the gratitude of their hearts."

These men, who, but for this timely aid, would have suffered great hardships, and many of them would, perhaps, have died, were comfortably cared for by the Commission's delegates for *over a week*, until they could be conveyed by the Government to the various hospitals.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

LECTURE ON "THE MISSION OF THE WAR," BY FREDERICK DOUGLASS.—Concert Hall, the evening of the 10th inst. Mr. D. lectured to an audience on "The Mission of the War," a pleasant one. There was a large, and apparently a very [illegible] and not more than one-tenth was scarcely a seat unoccupied; there were colored persons. One-tenth of these present were small girls and a boy, On the platform were from New Orleans. Their skin was as white as [illegible] from the free-schools of any white children that we have ever seen. They are the children of a slave mother, and their father is serving in the rebel army. Their appearance on the platform created considerable interest among the audience.

Douglass was received with much applause. At the outset of his remarks, he said his object was to argue not for the black race, or as a friend of the black race, but as an Abolitionist and a friend of humanity. He would urge the necessity of this war being prosecuted against the rebellion entirely as an Abolition war. He was the advocate of no peace with the rebellion, except it be an Abolition peace. [Applause.] His desire was to have the political franchise extended to every colored man, that there should be this new element in the national solidity. He had no new truths to utter; truth was from everlasting to everlasting, and cannot be driven away. Such a truth was that fundamental one that all men are entitled to their liberty. It is with this truth clearly before us, that we could finish up the existing war with honor to ourselves and nation. He proposed that only by liberty and equality could we solve the great problem of the war. The present rebellion was one which flies in the face of everlasting truth. It is one that proceeds from light to darkness, from intelligence to ignorance, and from civilization to barbarism. Unlike other rebellions, it had not the love of liberty to excuse it. That rebellion, cost what it will to put it down, last long though it may, must eventually be conquered for the sake of humanity and civilization. The speaker had believed from the beginning that, if the North and South should meet each other in hostile array, it would be a long war; for liberty would be on one side and slavery on the other, and when slavery and liberty fought each other, the contest was bloody and long. It has always been so. The war must go on, however, till it had ended in the complete overthrow of despotism. The mission of this war was a grand one. Its value is not for to-day, but for all time. The war will last long, because the patient has long been suffering from a great disease.

The nation had yielded so long to pro-slavery compromises that when the nation came into the hands of Dr. Buchanan, that old man declared it was too far gone for medicine. [Laughter and applause.]

In referring to the political parties of the day, Mr. Douglass said that he had nothing to fear from the Democratic party. That organization had become too impotent to do any harm. The real apprehension was from the Republican party. That party must present a united force against slavery. So long as there was slavery there would be a slavery party in the North. [Applause.] We are still under the impression that we are fighting for the old Union. We have not understood the true mission of the war. We are not fighting for the Union. The Union was destroyed at Fort Sumpter. We are not fighting for the old Union or anything analogous to the old Union. What the North is fighting for and what the South is fighting for is national unity. We want unity, unity in sentiment and in idea.

The motto of Mr. Seward, that there was an irrepressible conflict between freedom was slavery, was stolen thunder. It was stolen from Calhoun. Now the South wants a united despotism, we must have a united force for freedom. What we of the North want is a country—a free country—nowhere polluted by the tread of a single slave. [Applause.] Let us then have an Abolition war, for we can have, in no other way, a country that we can respect. We want a country in which there shall be no sectional pride, and here we will agree with the Copperheads. [Laughter and applause.] We want a country where Baptists shall meet Baptists in annual convention without the use of bowie-knives. We want a country in which it will be no longer a crime to teach a human being how to write the name of the Almighty God. [Applause.] This war is one of the greatest blessings that have come to us in the order of Providence. Our war is destined to improve us in many respects. It will teach us the great injustice that has been done to the black race for two hundred years. Just so far as our Government approaches to justice and humanity, just in that proportion shall it conquer.

Where the army is most Abolitionized, there may we expect most victory, and Europe dare not fight against us, if we fight in the interest of humanity. [Applause.] It was not the intention of the Government that this should be an Abolition war, but there is a Divinity which shapes our ends rough hew them as we will. If we are wise this mighty war will go on, go on in its broad, high, and powerful course till our nation is saved beyond the necessity of being saved again.

AN UNPARALLELED CASE OF BIGAMY.—An Englishman, named Thomas Ladd, was taken before the Police Magistrate of the Fifth ward on the 11th inst., on the charge of bigamy. The details of this case show a lamentable ignorance of the moral as well as common and statute law that certainly stands without a parallel in the police annals of the county. We doubt much whether France can present its equal.

It seems from the evidence adduced that the defendant married a widow with a child, a little girl about seven years old. This took place at Gravesend, England, a number of years ago. He became the father of three boys. When the little girl of seven reached the age of about sixteen the defendant, her stepfather, threatened to turn her and her mother out of house and home, if she, the inexperienced girl, did not marry him. The husband procured the services of a Gravesend lawyer, and he found no difficulty in drawing up papers granting a separation; this was brought to the house, and the mother signed it. This, of course, was not a divorce. The affection and love of a daughter for her mother were now put to the test, which finally resulted in the stepdaughter agreeing to become his wife in order to save her mother and the three little brothers from being turned out of doors, and thus become objects of charity in a cold, unfeeling, uncharitable world. The step-father lived with his step-daughter as husband and wife. Finally, they all came to America, landing, about a year since, at New York. The young wife was sick with the ship-fever; the brutal man abused her; she was not well provided for. She finally said that she could not live with him as his wife, because it was immoral, and a sin in the sight of God. He persisted in his brutal efforts; she resisted him, left him, went from one place to another; he followed her; threatened if she did not come and live with him, as his wife, there would be bloody work. On one occasion he forced her to yield under threats of death, and he sprang at her, when she attempted to escape from his embrace, and drew a razor threatening to kill her. Her screams of murder brought assistance and the coward released his hold. She obtained work at several places in New York, Boston, and other parts; vowed she could not live with him as his wife, but would as his daughter. But in every instance he violated his pledge upon inducing her to return. Not long since the girl, half-distracted, not knowing what to do, came to Philadelphia and obtained work for herself. Her stepfather-husband, mother, and the three little boys had come to this city previously. Here he importuned her; dogged her pathway; offered indignities to her, and finally she fled as though from a monster. He proceeded to the Central Station and had a warrant of arrest issued. This was placed in the hands of the detectives, who did not succeed in finding her. By some means or other she called upon Alderman White for information, and, on making her statement, of which the above is a synopsis, he at once saw that there had been a clear violation of the law against incest. The thirty-eighth section of the revised penal code, on the law of affinity, says that a *man shall not marry his wife's daughter.* The penalty for violating this law is three years' imprisonment and a fine of $500. It also says such a *marriage is void.*

The first wife, that is the mother of the prosecutrix, not being present, the case went over for another hearing; the defendant being committed in default of $3,000 bail. It is said that he enlisted in the army in Boston as an attaché of a hospital, in which capacity he served four months and then left. Whether this is equivalent to desertion or not is for the military authorities to say. The defendant works at Camden, New Jersey, but lives in Philadelphia.

ATTEMPT AT SMUGGLING.—A shrewd attempt at smuggling whisky on board the United States steamer Massachusetts, now lying in the stream off the navy yard, was discovered on Friday of last week. This vessel is employed to carry stores, &c., to the vessels in the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, and as such also conveys private boxes for the officers and seamen from their friends in the North. A box was delivered at the navy yard on that day marked for a person on the United States frigate Ironsides, off Charleston, to go by the Massachusetts, and as it was being taken on board that vessel, it was discovered that the box leaked. What got out was tasted and found to be rather strong. Curiosity being excited, the box was opened, and enclosed in it was a package resembling a fine, large sugar-cured ham, covered as usual. This being cut, exposed to view three small cans, containing what is commonly termed by the Indians "fire water." As a matter of course, the said *water* was confiscated. It is quite likely that such attempts at illegal trafficking are frequently carried on, and efforts should be made to prevent it.

NAVY YARD SAILMAKERS.—The sailmakers, who recently struck for $2.60 per day, at the navy yard, have resumed work at their own disadvantage. They first offered to work the full ten hours per day, at the rate of 25 cents per hour, if the Government would light up the loft. This was refused. The sum of $2.25 was offered to the sailmakers for short day's work. This they refused, and demanded the $2.60. The Government then proceeded to have the work done outside, and obtained partial success. The sailmakers finally "caved," and resumed work at $2.60 per day of full ten hours. The case stands thus: The Government offered $2.25 for a day of seven hours and a half. Sailmakers refused. They finally resumed work at $2.60 for full ten hours. In other words, while they increase their wages twenty-five cents per day, they increase their term of labor two and a half hours, thereby getting the rate for increased hours just ten cents per hour. Uncle Sam, of course, does not suffer by the transaction. The sailmakers in the yard do not labor as hard as the same class of operatives do outside.

THE HOME OF THE COLORED RACE.—Rev. Chauncey Leonard, colored, for several years in charge of a large school for colored youth in Baltimore, and more recently the popular pastor of a Baptist church, composed of his own people, in Washington city, embarked on a trading vessel from Boston, February 4th, last, for Western Africa. His purpose was to examine Liberia, and to make arrangements for the permanent settlement in that Republic of himself and family, and such of his friends as might elect to accompany him. It will be seen, from the subjoined communication from him, that he is gratified with the condition of the rising African State. As the convictions of an intelligent and worthy man, we trust that they may have their effect upon his race in the United States, and stimulate its members to go up and possess their ancestral land, and help to erect an honorable and lasting nationality:

SHIP M. C. STEVENS, ATLANTIC OCEAN,
NEAR SIERRA LEONE, Oct. 13, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR: I reached Sierra Leone on the 23d March last, after a voyage of forty-four days out from Boston. While there I had an attack of African fever. Just two weeks after arriving there, I took passage on the English mail steamer for Cape Palmas, and reached there on the 16th April, where I was again taken with the fever two hours after landing. These attacks prostrated me very much. I recovered sufficiently in four weeks to move about to examine the farm lands in that region, with which I was much pleased. I noticed the surface of the country. It is not flat, as I had supposed, but beautifully diversified with hill, and dale, and pleasant valleys, teaming with the delicious fruits of this tropical clime; here and there bounded by rivers, creeks, and springs, yielding clear and refreshing waters for the use of man. I was, indeed, happily disappointed to find them so cool and pure, and as sweet as any I ever drank. I called upon Bishop Payne, at the Cape Episcopal Mission-house, and passed a few hours with him very pleasantly. He has done a good work for Africa, and seemed zealous in the noble cause to which the Saviour has called him. I spent much of my time with Chief Justice Drayton and his good lady, and was treated with marked attention. Cape Palmas is supplied with very fine oysters. The land in this country is considered superior for raising sugar-cane, coffee, and vegetables, and some of the citizens are beginning to grow cotton.

I visited Sinoe, and was much pleased with the towns on the banks of the Sinoe river. Farmington, Louisiana, and Sesslington are not thickly settled as they are in farming districts. The land is excellent for raising almost all kinds of grain, vegetables and fruits. Colonel Crayton has a farm on this river of four hundred acres. I have never seen so great a variety of articles on one farm growing at the same time. I saw rice, cassada, sweet potatoes, corn, lima beans, watermelons, eddoes, plantains, bananas, pea-nuts, ochre, arrow-root, tobacco, coffee, cotton, ginger, &c. He had just burnt a large brick kiln for his own use. The banks of this river furnish capital clay for this purpose. In the centre of his farm are some six or eight bamboo-thatched huts for the Congoes or recaptured Africans, obtained from the Government. These are daily receiving instruction from him in farming. The public farm, with a new and commodious receptacle, joins his farm, and the children on both farms are daily instructed by a local-preacher stationed near for the purpose.

At Greenville I formed a very agreeable acquaintance with Rev. James M. Priest, Vice President-elect of Siberia. He appears to be an active man. My old friend and classmate, Dr. Snowdon, resides here, and in connection with his limited practice and scant pay, is now turning his attention to farming. There are several very superior families in Greenville, but they all complain of the few inhabitants in the country as being too feeble in numbers to resist successfully the natives, should they make an attack upon them. They most earnestly desire emigration, that they may be strong enough to resist the invader, and the more successfully devote their attention to agriculture, that Sinoe may not be the least, but equal to any of the counties of the Republic. I sailed up the Sinoe river, in company with Col. Clayton and Rev. J. W. Roberts, as far as the falls, some twenty-two miles from its outlet. I consider the falls as a splendid site for a saw-mill. It has nearly twenty feet fall of water. The table-lands above, according to the estimate made by his Excellency President Benson, are from 160 to 170 feet high. The rice farms on the river banks look finely.

From Sinoe I proceeded to Buchanan, but was there taken sick with the fever, so that I was prevented from visiting Bexley or Finley, consequently I saw but little of the St. John's river or of Basso county.

Monrovia and the St. Paul's river seem to be the centre of attraction to many, especially to those who do not like country life. There are some very fine people in Monrovia, who are constantly laboring for the progress of this noble infant Republic. I was delighted with the towns and the fine farms on this river. I am thus far much pleased with my visit, although I have suffered much from repeated attacks of the fever, and have labored under many disadvantages in travelling for the want of means. Believe me, as ever, your friend and co-worker in the right cause.

CHAUNCEY LEONARD.

LIST OF THE KILLED AND WOUNDED of Gen. Geary's division (2d) of the 12th Army Corps, during the battles of Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and Ringgold, Ga.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS KILLED.

Col. Wm. R. Creighton, 7th Ohio Volunteers, commanding 1st brigade.
Lieut. Col. Owen J. Crane, 7th Ohio Volunteers.
Lieut. Jos. Cryne, 7th Ohio Volunteers.
Lieut. Henry Davis, 66th Ohio Volunteers.
Capt. Chas. S. Davis, 147th Penna. Volunteers.
Major G. M. Elliott, 102d N. Y. Volunteers.
Lieut. G. W. Owen, 137th N. Y. Volunteers.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WOUNDED.

Maj. W. M. Thomas, 60th N. Y. Vols., face.
Capt. R. S. Sinclair, Co. E, 60th N. Y. Vols., arm.
1st Lieut. Thos. Hobarth, Co. K, 60th N. Y. Vols., breast.
1st Lieut. John E. Wilson, 60th N. Y. Vols., arm.
Col. H. A. Barnum, 149th N. Y. Vols., arm.
Capt. W. M. Tallman, 149th N. Y. Vols., neck and thigh.
Capt. O. F. May, Co. A, 149th N. Y. Vols., hip.
Capt. P. Wheeler, Co. D, 149th N. Y. Vols., thigh.
Capt. E. Townsend, G, 149th N. Y. Vols., ankle.
2d. Lt. Thos. Merriam, H, 149th N. Y. Vols., arm.
1st Lt. G. K. Collins, K, 149th N. Y. Vols., foot.
Lt. Col. R. Avery, 102d N. Y. Vols., dangerously.
Capt. Chas. T. Greene, A. A. G., 3d brigade, right leg shot off below the knee.
Capt. Thos. Elliott, 60th N. Y. Vols., leg.
Lt. Alex. McKinstry, 137th N. Y. Vols., left arm.
Adj. Morris Baxter, 7th Ohio Vols., mortally.
Lieut. Geo. A. McKay, 7th Ohio Vols., A. A. G., 1st brigade, both legs.
Lieut. Dwight H. Brown, 7th Ohio Vols., right leg.
Lieut. J. O. Jones, 7th Ohio Vols., body.
Lieut. Geo. A. Lockwood, 7th Ohio Vols., chin.
Lieut. E. H. Bohn, 7th Ohio Vols., left arm.
Lieut. H. N. Spencer, 7th Ohio Vols., right side.
Capt. —— Braden, 7th Ohio Vols., ankle.
Capt. S. McClelland, 7th Ohio Vols., face and arm.
Lt. Christian Nesper, 7th Ohio Vols., right arm.
Adj. Goodman, 28th Pa. Vols., right breast.
Lieut. Peter Kaylor, 29th Pa. Vols., leg.
Capt. Nicholas Way, 28th Pa. Vols., foot.
Lieut. Benj. T. Parker, 147th Pa. Vols., neck.
Capt. Jesse R. Millison, 29th Pa. Vols., severely.
Capt. Wm. A. Thomas, 111th Pa. Vols., slightly.
Capt. Geo. E. Johnson, 29th Pa. Vols., slightly.
Lieut. P. A. Mead, 111th Pa. Vols, severely.

ENLISTED MEN KILLED.

Corporal John C. Collet, Co. A, 7th Ohio Vols.
Corporal Alfred Austin, Co. A, 7th Ohio Vols.
J. L. Fish, Co. C, 7th Ohio Vols.
Charles F. King, Co. C, 7th Ohio Vols.
Charles Wall, Co. C, 7th Ohio Vols.
D. R. Hood, Co. C, 7th Ohio Vols.
Oliver Grunnell, Co. E, 7th Ohio Vols.
L. Rummes, Co. F, 7th Ohio Vols.
H. M. Hansom, Co. G, 7th Ohio Vols.
Sergeant Wm. Van Wie, Co. H, 7th Ohio Vols.
Corporal William Bennett, Co. H, 7th Ohio Vols.
J. H. Morrill, Co. H, 7th Ohio Vols.
William Plahe, Co. K, 7th Ohio Vols.
D. Eaton, Co. H, 66th Ohio Vols.
Corporal M. K. Morrow, Co. D, 66th Ohio Vols.
F. Newhouse, Co. K, 66th Ohio Vols.
Wallace W. Beard, Co. G, 66th Ohio Vols.
Sergeant Samuel Hamilton, Co. K, 28th Pa. Vols.
Corporal Henry C. Fithian, Co. D, 28th Pa. Vols.
Charles T. Murphy, Co. D, 28th Pa. Vols.
James Dunn, Co. K, 28th Pa. Vols.
William Vanderslit, 29th Pa. Vols.
Michael Farry, 29th Pa. Vols.
Sergeant John Douglass, 29th Pa. Vols.
Corporal —— Hartsham, Co. C, 111th Pa. Vols.
Thomas Lee, Co. C, 60th New York Vols.
Martin Ayres, Co. D, 60th New York Vols.
Robt. Smith, Co. G, 60th New York Vols.
Phelan Flora, Co. G, 60th New York Vols.
Geo. Mabow, Co. H, 60th New York Vols.
Corporal Jas. C. Wilson, Co. I, 137th N. Y. Vols.
Corporal F. F. Twining, Co. E, 137th N. Y. Vols.
Alonzo Whiting, Co. G, 137th N. Y. Vols.
Frank Mason, Co. B, 137th N. Y. Vols.
Moses Rosebilds, Co. A, 149th N. Y. Vols.
Andrew Getten, Co. D, 149th N. Y. Vols.
Joseph Shubel, Co. C, 149th N. Y. Vols.
James Hines, Co. E, 149th N. Y. Vols.
Sergeant J. H. Johnson, Co. H, 149th N. Y. Vols.
James Mills, Co. I, 149th N. Y. Vols.
Frank Van Alten, Co. K, 149th N. Y. Vols.
Chas. Backus, Co. B, 60th N. Y. Vols.
Michael Robedeau, Co. H, 60th N. Y. Vols.
Corporal William Lea, Co. E, 102d N. Y. Vols.
Corporal John Jones, Co. C, 102d N. Y. Vols.
John Silvernail, Co. A, 137th N. Y. Vols.
Jonas Jarvis, Co. D, 149th N. Y. Vols.
Lewis Huntley, Co. D, 149th N. Y. Vols.
James Mackey, Co. K, 149th N. Y. Vols.

ENLISTED MEN WOUNDED.

Geo. Spencer, A, 7th Ohio, left leg amputated.
Thos. Douce, A, 7th Ohio, right ankle.
Wm. Lurfurt, A, 7th Ohio, left leg.
Sergeant Marcus Culter, B, 7th Ohio, left leg.
J. E. Himc, B, 7th Ohio, right leg.
Sergeant J. Gardner, C, 7th Ohio, body.
Corporal J. W. Raymond, C, 7th Ohio, thigh.
W. O. Barnes, C, 7th Ohio, elbow.
J. Cleverton, C, 7th Ohio, body.
D. H. Claghorn, C, 7th Ohio, leg.
William H. Sheldon, C, 7th Ohio, right arm.
John B. Phillips, C, 7th Ohio, leg.
Wm. Pelton, C, 7th Ohio, left arm amputated.
Thomas Sweet, C, 7th Ohio, thigh.
1st Sergeant L. Wilson, D, 7th Ohio, right hand.
Corporal E. V. Nash, D, 7th Ohio, left foot.
M. Fitzgerald, D, 7th Ohio, breast.
J. Tuttle, D, 7th Ohio, face.
Geo. Eshlon, E, 7th Ohio, right leg amputated.
H. T. Lowry, E, 7th Ohio, foot.
H. O. Poxley, E, 7th Ohio, thigh.
Sergeant —— Stratton, F, 7th Ohio, foot.
J. Bergen, F, 7th Ohio, face.
William Johnson, F, 7th Ohio, leg.
V. Reynolds, G, 7th Ohio, leg.
J. W. Hall, G, 7th Ohio, leg.
H. B. Pownall, G, 7th Ohio, hand.
W. Wise, G, 7th Ohio, face.
Sergeant E. Fox, H, 7th Ohio, right arm.
Corporal O. Glendenning, H, 7th Ohio, leg.
A. White, H, 7th Ohio, hip.
H. O. Johnston, H, 7th Ohio, thigh.
O. Martin, H, 7th Ohio, leg.
S. D. Yates, H, 7th Ohio, thigh.
H. L. Wright, H, 7th Ohio, arm.
J. J. Kincaid, H, 7th Ohio, arm.
Corporal H. B. Deeds, I, 7th Ohio, hand.
C. Cowden, I, 7th Ohio, thigh.
J. Decker, I, 7th Ohio, knee.
Sergeant E. Hurston, K, 7th Ohio, leg.
C. Deist, K, 7th Ohio, back.
D. Dorr, K, 7th Ohio, mouth.
H. Fetzer, K, 7th Ohio, right leg amputated.
T. Habig, K, 7th Ohio, left hand.
J. Rowe, K, 7th Ohio, foot.
J. Reymlt, K, 7th Ohio, leg.
J. Schwink, K, 7th Ohio, arm.
G. Wandall, K, 7th Ohio, left leg.
Corporal G. Smith, A, 66th Ohio.
Sergeant H. Heller, A, 66th Ohio.
F. Dashmer, B, 66th Ohio.
Sergeant A. Subler, C, 66th Ohio.
J. E. Thomas, E, 66th Ohio.
G. M. Hoover, D, 66th Ohio.
Corporal D. W. Harris, H, 66th Ohio.
Sergeant H. Hanger, G, 66th Ohio.
Corporal J. R. Wilson, G, 66th Ohio.
S. Hatch, K, 66th Ohio.
Samuel Brown, A, 147th Penna., hand.
James Greene, B, 147th Penna., face.
Daniel Martin, C, 147th Penna., right leg amp'ted.
Aaron Greene, C, 147th Penna., neck and cheek.
John Burns, C, 147th Penna., right leg.
1st Serg't Jos. E. Goodman, D, 147th Penna., left thigh amputated.
Edward Elliott, D, 147th Penna., foot.
James E. Lee, E, 147th Penna., right foot.
Corp'l Solomon Keck, F, 147th Penna., left wrist.
Corp'l Sam'l D. Eggleburger, F, 147th Pa., head.
John Alrey, F, 147th Penna., thigh.
Jas. L. Coburn, F, 147th Penna., foot.
Andrew Sour, F, 147th Penna., foot.
Sam'l Whitebread, F, 147th Penna., thigh.
Isaac Nipp, G, 147th Penna., arm and sides.
Charles Brown, H, 147th Penna., head.
M. Lundenberger, H, 147th Penna., right cheek.
Serg't Major R. A. Kerhard, 28th Penna., shoulder and spine.
John Smith, A, 28th Penna., arm.
Wm. Twiney, C, 28th Penna., hand.
Henry Tell, D, 28th Penna., right arm.
Charles Vreeland, D, 28th Penna., left arm.
John H. Robertson, D, 28th Penna., right arm.
Benj. Brucken, D, 28th Penna., cheek.
Corp'l Edward McGrady, E, 28th Penna., breast.
Corp'l Geo. Harless, E, 28th Penna., thigh.
Gideon Moser, E, 28th Pennsylvania, head.
Peter Odenelreber, E, 29th Pennsylvania, thigh.
Charles Powell, E, 28th Pennsylvania, wrist.
Soloman Johnston, E, 28th Pennsylvania, thigh.
Sergeant Jos. W. Stephens, F, 28th Pennsylvania, head, (dead.)
John Laus, F, 28th Pennsylvania, shoulder.
Thomas Beer, F, 28th Pennsylvania, thigh.
Wm. Malley, F, 28th Pennsylvania, leg.
B. F. Stephens, F, 28th Pennsylvania, leg.
Corporal James Grady, G, 28th Pa., side.
Corporal James H. Nugent, G, 28th Penn'a, right shoulder.
Henry M. Rhoads, G, 28th Pennsylvania, leg.
Julius Weize, G, 28th Penn'a, leg and hand.
John Glunt, A, 28th Pennsylvania, arm.
B. F. Gross, A, 28th Pennsylvania, leg.
Wm. Patterson, I, 28th Pennsylvania, thigh.
Lewis F. Caston, K, 28th Pennsylvania, back.
Benj. McKinney, K, 28th Pennsylvania, hand.
Robert Robinson, 29th Pennsylvania, severely.
Oliver Wallace, 29th Pennsylvania, severely.
Geo. Koshesperger, 29th Pennsylvania.
Wm. Dunn, 29th Pennsylvania.
John Kelle, 29th Pennsylvania.
James Woods, 29th Pennsylvania.
James Burns, 29th Pennsylvania.
Sergeant Chauncey Messenger, 111th Pennsylvania, dangerously.
Edward Whipple, 111th Pennsylvania.
—— Porter, 111th Pennsylvania.
Sergeant Major John Scholl, 60th N. Y., leg.
Sergeant E. D. Worth, A, 60th N. Y., arm.
Corporal A. C. Robinson, A, 60th N. Y., thigh.
Hiram Harlow, A, 60th N. Y., thigh.
Benj. Carlisle, C, 60th N. Y., thigh.
Sylvanus Bachus, C, 60th N. Y., leg.
Miles Ferguson, D, 60th N. Y., thigh.
Geo. Salsbee, E, 60th N. Y., leg.
Sergeant J. Fairbanks, F, 60th N. Y., thigh.
Sergeant Harvey Palmer, F, 60th N. Y., abdomen.
Corporal Wm. Gordon, F, 60th N. Y., arm.
Stephen Hyatt, F, 60th N. Y., side, mortally.
Brayton Farmer, F, 60th N. Y., thigh.
John Bolan, G, 60th N. Y., leg.
Sydney Rider, H, 60th N. Y., head.
Sergeant A. F. Hubbell, H, 60th N. Y., side.
Corporal Wm. Tees, H, 60th N. Y., abdomen.
Corporal Wm. Kelley, H, 60th N. Y., head.
Sergeant Wm. Leaby, I, 60th N. Y., leg.
Myron Ward, I, 60th N. Y., shoulder.
Palmer Harteen, I, 60th N. Y., hand.
Sergeant John B. Mills, K, 60th N. Y., hand.
Corporal L. E. Freeman, K, 60th N. Y., leg.
Michael Hickey, K, 60th N. Y., hip.
Corporal R. Maholland, H, 102d N. Y., hand.
David Hunter, A, 102d N. Y., face.
Patrick White, C, 102d N. Y., shoulder.
Sergeant S. Schoolcraft, G, 137th N. Y., arm.
Color Sergt. J. A. Brink, H, 137th N. Y., breast.
Corporal Jesse Olvne, B, 137th N. Y., leg.
Corporal Wm. J. Foot, D, 137th N. Y., head.
Corporal A. Wolverton, H, 137th N. Y., wrist.
Corporal Wm. M. Bugly, I, 137th N. Y., hand.
Corporal John McCovern, K, 137th N. Y., leg.
Oscar Reynolds, B, 137th N. Y., arm.
David W. Rumpp, C, 137th N. Y., thigh.
Sylvester Odell, D, 137th N. Y., face.
G. G. Randall, E, 137th N. Y., breast.
Jacob Lown, E, 137th N. Y., leg.
M. F. Rich, E, 137th N. Y., leg.
Wm. H. Yerks, H, 137th N. Y., hip.
M. Fuller, H, 137th N. Y., leg.
John Thompson, I, 137th N. Y., body.
John Porsonins, K, 137th N. Y., leg.
Corp. James Clase, A, 149th N. Y., arm.
Francis Obafery, A, 149th N. Y., leg.
Patrick Dunn, A, 149th N. Y., arm.
Adam Dunn, A, 149th N. Y., arm.
Harris Platt, A, 149th N. Y., arm.
Smith Poppleton, A, 149th N. Y., arm.
Anthony Weaver, A, 149th N. Y., hand.
Fred. Bully, A, 149th N. Y., arm.
George Seeler, B, 149th N. Y., thigh.
David Frank, B, 149th N. Y., thigh.
Pierce Hersch, B, 149th N. Y., leg.
Joseph Heise, B, 149th N. Y., foot.
M. Garabbarker, B, 149th N. Y., finger.
Wm. Steager, B, 149th N. Y., arm.
Ottoman Hill, B, 149th N. Y., face.
Augustus Bloes, C, 149th N. Y., arm.
M. A. Connol, C, 149th N. Y., thigh.
Farry Fister, D, 149th N. Y., arm.
Frank Blair, D, 149th N. Y., arm.
John Hereford, D, 149th N. Y., shoulder.
S. Lo Raye, D, 149th N. Y., hand.
1st Sergt. N. F. Potter, E, 149th N. Y., shoulder.
Sergeant Oscar Bailey, E, 149th N. Y., foot.
Milton C. Frost, E, 149th N. Y., hip.
William Smith, E, 149th N. Y., leg.
Ellis Lashway, E, 149th N. Y., leg.
Seymour Lewis, F, 149th N. Y., side.
James F. Shearer, F, 149th N. Y., hand.
C. Cross, G, 149th N. Y., neck.
Edmund Durbin, G, 149th N. Y., thigh.
James Gill, G, 149th N. Y., finger.
Earl Spaulding, G, 149th N. Y., arm.
William H. Crozier, G, 149th N. Y., cheek.
Patrick Henan, G, 149th N. Y., leg.
Henry Coon, H, 149th N. Y., arm; since dead.
Corporal J. Fit, H, 149th N. Y., side.
Otto Layer, H, 149th N. Y., left arm amputated.
John L. Stevens, H, 149th N. Y., leg.
Wm. Tucker, H, 149th N. Y., arm.
Sergeant J. B. Brown, E, 149th N. Y., thigh.
James Frost, E, 149th N. Y., leg.
Wm. Carroll, C, 149th N. Y., arm.
Corporal Thomas Chase, I, 149th N. Y., thigh.
Wm. Robinson, F, 149th N. Y., neck.
James Murray, A, 149th N. Y., leg.
First Sergeant Jas. E. Fitch, A, 60th N. Y., side.
Lyman Tupper, A, 60th N. Y., side.
Corporal John McGregor, B, 60th N. Y., head.
Corporal H. N. Worden, C, 60th N. Y., legs.
David Hollidays, C, 60th N. Y., foot.
Nelson Brill, D, 60th N. Y., side.
Sergeant E. N. Reed, D, 60th N. Y., head.
Corporal O. Cozens, F, 60th N. Y., leg.
Geo. Champlon, G, 60th N. Y., arm.
Thos. Small, H, 60th N. Y., leg and arm.
Alfred Lapree, H, 60th N. Y., leg.
Jas. Chaffee, I, 60th N. Y., 60th N. Y., thigh.
Wilson Upton, H, 60th N. Y., arm.
Sergeant John Dewane, K, 60th N. Y., head.
Sergeant O. H. Spaulding, K, 102d N. Y., arm.
Sergeant Alex. Hunt, D, 102d N. Y., leg.
Corporal Jas. Haggerty, C, 102d N. Y., legs.
Jas. Ackerman, C, 102d N. Y., shoulder.
John Sullivan, G, 102d N. Y., breast.
Michael Dermio, K, 102d N. Y., finger off.
Jas. S. Kelly, F, 102d N. Y., leg.
Sergeant Alex. Carman, A, 137th N. Y., leg.
Sergeant S. Pettigrew, A, 137th N. Y., hand.
Sergeant Horace L. Smith, C, 137th N. Y., leg.
Corporal Wm. H. Greene, F, 137th N. Y., hands.
Owen Moffit, A, 137th N. Y., hand.
Robert Gresson, F, 137th N. Y., hand.
Thos. Keegan, F, 137th N. Y., arm.
Hiram Hawks, I, 137th N. Y., arm.
Warren Fowler, I, 137th N. Y., arm.
James Easling, I, 137th N. Y., arm.
Aaron Van Matten, I, 137th N. Y., foot.
Herman Westfall, I, 137th N. Y., breast.
L. E. Searles, H, 137th N. Y., wrist.
Nathan Eaton, E, 137th N. Y., legs.
Thompson Sobers, K, 137th N. Y., hip, arm, hand.
Sergt. L. W. Ramsey, A, 149th N. Y., left arm.
Henry Kooble, B, 149th N. Y., thigh.
Patrick Murphy, C, 149th N. Y., back.
Daniel Cain, C, 149th N. Y., thigh.
Reijo Baker, D, 149th N. Y., wrist.
Sergt. Geo. H. Deitz, I, 149th N. Y., neck and face.
Corporal Thos. Chase, I, 149th N. Y.
John McAllister, I, 149th N. Y., arm.
Jerome Patterson, I, 149th N. Y., arm.
Harrison Miles, I, 149th N. Y., shoulder.
John Green, I, 149th N. Y., neck.

RECAPITULATION.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Aggregate.
Commis'd officers	7	38	45
Enlisted men	49	257	306
Total	56	295	351

THE EFFECT OF OUR COURTESIES TO THE RUSSIANS.—We have seen a private letter from a high source in St. Petersburg, which says that the reception extended to the Russian naval officers in this country is producing the most gratifying results in St. Petersburg. "Go where I may," says the writer, "it is the theme of conversation—alike in the clubs, in the theatres, in the cafés, and upon the pavé." The writer adds that in an interview with Prince Gortschakoff, with which he had been honored, he found that officer completely overflowing with satisfaction at what he termed this "gorgeous demonstration." Nor, to the surprise of the writer, was Prince Gortschakoff ignorant of the smallest detail, for he even related many incidents of which our legation is said to have known nothing.—*Evening Post.*

Synopsis of the Postmaster General's Report.

The Postmaster General reports that during the last fiscal year the financial condition of his Department has been one of unusual prosperity. The revenue has nearly equalled the expenditures, the latter amounting to $11,314,206.84, and the former to $11,163,789.59. There is good reason to believe that the Department will be self-sustaining in a brief period of time.

The whole number of post offices existing on the 30th of June, 1863, was 29,047, being an increase on the preceding year of 172. Eight hundred and thirty offices have been established, and 658 have been discontinued.

The number of special agents on June 30th, 1863, was sixteen, with an aggregate salary of $26,600, and 287 route agents, at an aggregate salary of $259,200; also forty-five local agents, at $27,642. Baggage-masters, in charge of express-mails, have received $7,140.

The total cost of trans-Atlantic mail steamship service was $332,184.80. This price covered 132 round trips to various European ports.

The Postmaster General regrets to state that no progress has been made in negotiations for a new postal convention with Prussia, embracing the States composing the German-Austrian Postal Union, on account of some obstacle presented by Austria in regard to territorial transit charges.

He renews his recommendation on March 3, 1862, to the postal committees in Congress, that all private ships departing from the United States for foreign ports should be required, as a condition of clearance, to convey mails on such terms as may be allowed by Congress.

During the year the increased length of routes has been 6,655 miles, but the annual cost of mail transportation has decreased $113,258, or about 2 per cent.

The value of stamps issued to postmasters during the year is $9,653,392; stamped letter envelopes, $734,821, and stamped newspaper wrappers $20,646. The total value of these sold to the public was $9,624,629.62, being an excess over the previous year of $2,314,397.73.

The Postmaster General renews his last year's recommendation to Congress to authorize him to adjust and allow the claims of the postmasters who have sustained losses of stamps and stamped envelopes "by reason of the occupation and robbery of their offices by bodies of armed men." These claims thus far presented amount to about $8,000. He calls attention also to the fact that these postmasters have suffered greatly in the loss of private property.

He requests additional legislation in respect to post office thefts, and recommends that the stealing of letters and stamps be made a penal offence.

THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

There has been a continued increase of letters containing money and other valuables. The number of dead letters covering deeds, bills of exchange, drafts, and other valuable papers, received, registered, and returned for delivery to the writers, was 8,322, with an aggregate nominal value of $1,644,277.61. Of these letters 7,659 were delivered to the owners.

Letters registered and mailed, containing money, numbered 18,219. Of these, 16,046, containing $63,627.12, were finally delivered.

Sixteen thousand seven hundred and sixty-three letters of less value have been received, nearly 1,000 of which contained daguerreotypes, and were received and registered; 6,273 have been restored to the writers or senders.

The Postmaster General recommends that a postal money-order system be established to facilitate the transmission of small sums through the mails, which he is confident would prove not only a great convenience to soldiers and citizens, but would almost entirely obviate the loss of this class of remittances.

In regard to letters addressed to points in the rebellious States, the Postmaster General says: "By reason of the continued suspension of regular postal communication with sections of the country under insurrectionary control, a considerable number of letters, amounting in the aggregate to 21,314, found their way, by various channels, to the Dead-Letter Office. Of this number, 3,312 were of foreign origin, and were returned to the countries where they originated. Those originating in loyal States were turned over to the military authorities, and, after examination, most of them sent by flag of truce to their destination."

The Postmaster General has instructed postmasters to forward to the Dead-Letter Office, except in special cases, all letters remaining unclaimed one month after being advertised, instead of two months, as formerly.

In conclusion, he asks the consideration of Congress to the revised code of laws submitted by him at the last session, which is mainly a digest of existing postal laws.

Old John Brown.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER—HOW HE FACED DEATH.

The Cleveland (Ohio) *Herald* publishes the following letter, never before printed, written by Captain John Brown, who was hung at Charlestown, Virginia, four years ago last Wednesday, to a relative and old friend in Windham, Ohio:

"CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON CO., VA.,
19th Nov., 1859.

"REV LUTHER HUMPHREY—MY DEAR FRIEND: Your kind letter of the 12th inst., is now before me. I suppose I am the first since the landing of Peter Brown from the Mayflower that has either been sentenced to imprisonment or to the gallows. But my dear old friend, let not that fact alone grieve you. You cannot have forgotten how and where our grandfather (Capt. John Brown) fell in 1776, and that he too, might have perished on the scaffold had circumstances been but very little different. The fact that a man dies under the hand of an executioner (or otherwise) has but little to do with his true character, as I suppose. John Rogers perished at the stake, a great and good man, as I suppose; but his doing so does not prove that any other man who has died in the same way was good or otherwise. Whether I have any reason to 'be of good cheer' (or not) in view of my end, I can assure you that I feel so; and that I am totally blinded if I do not really experience that strengthening and consolation you so faithfully implore in my behalf. The God of our Fathers reward your fidelity. I neither feel mortified, degraded, nor in the least ashamed of my imprisonment, my chain, or near prospect of *death by hanging.* I feel assured 'that not one hair shall fall from my head without the will of my heavenly Father.' I also feel that I have long been endeavoring to hold exactly 'such a *fast* as God has chosen.' See the passage in Isaiah which you have quoted. No part of my life has been more happily spent than that I have spent here, and I humbly trust that no part has been spent to better purpose. I would not say this boastingly: but, 'thanks be unto God who giveth us the victory, through infinite grace.'

"I should be sixty years old were I to live till May 9, 1860. I have enjoyed much of life as it is, and have been remarkably prosperous, having early learned to regard the welfare and prosperity of others as my own. I have never, since I can remember, required a great amount of sleep, so that I conclude that have already enjoyed full an average number of waking hours with those who reach their 'three score years and ten.' I have not as yet been driven to the use of glasses, but can see to read and write quite comfortably. But, more than that, I have generally enjoyed remarkably good health. I might go on to recount unnumbered and unmerited blessings, among which would be some very severe afflictions; and those the most needed blessings of all. And now, when I think how easily I might be left to spoil all I have done or suffered in the cause of freedom, I hardly dare wish another voyage, even if I had the opportunity. It is a long time since we met; but we shall now soon come together in our 'Father's house,' I trust. 'Let us hold fast that we already have,' remembering 'we shall reap in due time if we faint not.' 'Thanks be ever unto God, who giveth us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord.' And now, my old warm-hearted friend, 'good bye.'

"Your affectionate cousin,
"JOHN BROWN."

The Perils of Ocean Navigation.

Great indignation is manifested in England at the severe sentence of six months' suspension imposed upon Captain Stone, late the commander of the Cunard steamship Africa, for permitting his vessel to be lost off Cape Race. A public meeting of the captains and officers of the British merchant service and their friends has been held in Liverpool, to remonstrate against the decree of the Nautical Assessors of the Board of Trade. At this meeting Captain Judkins, an officer well known to American voyagers on the Atlantic, was the principal speaker, and he made some strong points in his criticism of the punishment inflicted upon Captain Stone. As the senior commander of the Cunard service, Captain Judkins may be regarded as competent authority on nautical questions. He has navigated, in regular succession, almost every mail steamer in the Cunard line, from the Britannia in 1840, to the Scotia this year; and he gives his opinion that the decision in Captain Stone's case is opposed to justice and correct knowledge.

Captain Harris, one of the two assessors engaged in the investigation respecting the Africa, gave as a reason for the harshness with which Captain Stone was treated, that a northerly current set round by Cape Race, and mainly on this assumption the commander of the Africa was suspended. Captain Judkins, however, says: "Would we, as experienced commanders, not fail in our duty to the public if we allowed the statement that northerly currents regularly exist in the part of the Atlantic referred to to pass unchallenged, when we know it to be opposed to fact, and likely, if acted upon, to cause hereafter the loss of many a fine ship!"

Another fact brought out at this indignation meeting is of interest to travellers who are compelled to cross the ocean. Captain Ballantine, a commander in another steam company trading to America, unhesitatingly asserted that, while the Admiralty insists on ship-masters using the charts of the North American coast issued by that body, these charts are so imperfect and untrustworthy that they do not indicate dangerous places which are known to exist. Banquereau was one of those mentioned; and he declared that his company had to provide themselves with French admiralty charts. In the very chart which Captain Ballantine himself used he was obliged to reduce the French metres to English fathoms.

Whatever may be the merits of the particular case of Captain Stone, the officers of the Cunard Company owe a duty to the travelling public, who annually patronise their line by thousands, to sift the assertions thus boldly made by Captains Judkins and Ballantine.—*Evening Post.*

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[CONTINUED FROM THE FIRST PAGE.]

they were—the water gleaming, sparkling, the stones covered with green moss, just as they were in better days; the shade seemed deeper, that was all.

She crossed over, followed the winding of the brook for a quarter of a mile, struck across the wood, climbed up a small hill, and before her lay her brothers' farm. She had wandered back. All looked quiet and peaceable. In front of her a clearing stretched down to the house; in it lay the garden, filled with masses of low greens; the kitchen windows opened on this. She longed for a glimpse of her old room, with its gay chintze curtains, but it was on the other side of the house. Some one came to the back door and looked out; perhaps it was Jane! How Abby longed to hasten across to her! She remembered only her kindness, her constant interpositions with Benjamin for her; but even Benjamin was softened, was dear to her memory now. The farm-house had new, pleasant charms to her, now she dared not enter it.

As she stood there, a man came around the side of the house; she could not mistake Samuel; a little girl ran out and spoke to him; he turned and followed her into the garden. Then she sat down on a log and still watched the house; she was not afraid of any one coming. In the olden days she only roamed these woods. She wanted to see "Little Daniel." Samuel came out of the garden, and turned to the barn. "Gone to his workshop," Abby thought. A woman came out, carrying milk pails; she was too young and slight for Jane—a servant, likely. In a few minutes a boy drove the cows up and fastened them in the barn-yard—that must be "little Daniel." She could fancy the milking scene; she often used to watch them over the fence, for she was afraid to go in. Then she heard the pigs grunting, squealing—they were getting their supper—was Samuel or Daniel giving it to them?—she wished she knew.

The farm-hands came up to the house; she had not seen Benjamin yet; he would come in a hurry; he was always in haste. One of the men was washing his hands by the pump; the boy came from the barn-yard and sat down on the steps; the girl soon followed. If she only had some of that fresh, pure milk for her supperless boy!

Hark! some one was coming through the wood! Nearer, nearer; she crept behind some bushes. Straight over the hill, stepping over the very log she had been sitting on, firmly, quickly, a new, bright rake in his hand, was Benjamin. She held her breath; she feared he would hear her heart beat, hear Harry's low, quickly-hushed murmur.

The same Benjamin Holmes—dark, remorseless, upright; perhaps a harder expression about his mouth, his brow contracted, morose, unpitying. She knew he was thinking of her; she could hope for nothing from him—no sympathy, no comfort. He passed by; she did not move. Harry released himself, and began gathering the few green pine burs that had fallen. His mother sat on the ground crying, crying in such a forlorn, heart-broken way it was too piteous to speak of. The same woods had seen her tears before; it was not very far from there that she leaned against a tree and cried the day the Major came for her. But they were very different tears—lonely, childish, sobbing cries; now she hardly moaned, she rocked herself backwards, forward, she clasped her hands, wrung them, looked up to Heaven in mute agony. Her body was convulsed, her breast heaved, tears rained from her eyes, no one would have kissed them away; kisses, caresses, would have been no comfort for the horror that held her; they ceased when she was exhausted.

She laid wearily down on the grass; her eyes burned, her heart ached; she did not think nor feel, but lay numb.

After such passion will come sleep; it came to Abby, pressed down her eyelids, composed her nerves, and she slept. She did not feel her hard, grassy bed; she knew nothing of the gathering darkness, the falling dew—she forgot her child!

When she awakened she was alone; it was nearly dark. At first she was confused, she did not know who or where she was. She looked up at the trees, looked around her, remembered Harry; he was nowhere in sight! Where, where was he? She ran frantically about calling him. Had he been taken from her? Oh, foolish, foolish woman, to lie down and sleep!

"Mamma! mamma!"

She ran eagerly to him; he was sitting on the ground, his shoe and stocking off; he had been crying.

"Poor little boy, did mamma forget him?"

His little hand was stained with blood—she caught him up.

"Mamma went to sleep, and Harry cut his foot."

No wonder his cheeks were wet with tears. Across the sole of his foot was a deep gash; how deep, Abby could not see in the dim light. She bound it with her handkerchief, soothing him, petting, kissing him in a light manner, as mothers do, even in distress; and truly, no mother was ever more utterly miserable than Abigail Reynolds this night.

[TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.]

AN INCIDENT AT CHICKAMAUGA.—It was near four o'clock on that blazing afternoon, when a part of Gen. Steedman's division of the reserve corps bowed their heads to the hurtling storm of lead, as if it had been rain, and betrayed signs of breaking. The line wavered like a great flag in a breath of wind. They were as splendid material as ever shouldered a musket, but then what could they do in such a blinding tempest! Gen. Steedman rode up. A great, hearty man, broad breasted, broad-shouldered, a face written all over with sturdy sense and stout courage; no lady's man to make bouquets for snowy fingers, and sing "meet me by moonlight alone," like some generals I could name, but realizing the ideal of my boyhood when I read of the stout old Morgan of the Revolution. Well, up rode Steedman, took the flag from the color-bearer, glanced along the wavering front, and with that voice of his, that could talk against a small rattle of musketry, cried out, "Go back, boys, go back, but the flag can't go with you!"—grasped the staff, wheeled his horse, and rode on. Must I tell you how the column closed up and grew firm, and moved resistlessly on like a great strong river, and swept down upon the foe and made a record that shall live when their graves are as empty as the cave of Macpelah.—*Chattanooga Letter.*

CHATTANOOGA must have been a pleasant little town "in the piping times of peace." Nestled among the mountains, beside a loop in the Tennessee, embayed in the grandest of scenery, the battlements of "Lookout," its gray masonry alternating with the green of its oaks and the deeper shadows of its cedars, lifting majestically almost within long rifle range; Missionary Ridge, less ambitious but not less picturesque, within three flights of the shafts of Robin Hood and his merry men; the truant Tennessee loitering along, flowing south, flowing west, flowing north; the genial air, the generous earth; all must have rendered it a delightful nook in this noisy world. From the summit of Lookout mountain a glorious landscape unrolls; you can look upon Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama; you can see the dim looming of the Blue Ridge and Bald Peak, and the smoky ranges of the "Old North State," the shadow of whose King's mountain is sacred for all time, since out of it came the first whisper for independence, which, deepening and strengthening, at last broke out aloud around the British throne; I am not sure you cannot see the misty hills of the "Palmetto State" from the lofty lookout.—*Chicago Journal.*

HOW THE SOLDIER SLEEPS.—You would, I think, wonder to see men lie right down in the dusty road, under the full noon-sun of Tennessee and Alabama, and fall asleep in a minute. I have passed hundreds of such sleepers. A dry spot is a good mattress; the flap of a blanket quite a downy pillow. You would wonder, I think, to see a whole army corps, as I have, without a shred of a tent to bless themselves with, lying anywhere and everywhere in all-night rain, and not a growl nor a grumble. I was curious to see whether the pluck and good nature were washed out of them, and so I made my way out of the snug, dry quarters I am ashamed to say I occupied, at five in the morning, to see what water had done with them. Nothing! Each soaked blanket hatched out as jolly a fellow as you would wish to see—muddy, dripping, half floundered, forth they came, wringing themselves out as they went, with the look of a troop of "wet down" roosters in a full rain storm, plumage at half mast, but hearts trumps every time. If they swore—and some did—it was with a laugh; the sleepy fires were stirred up; then came the—coffee, and they were as good as new. "Blood is thicker than water."—*B. F. Taylor.*

[For The War Press.]

ISN'T IT HARD!

BY THE ARKANSAW TRAVELLER.

Isn't it hard for poor "Cuff,"
To think of the folly of some
Who argue (nonsensical stuff!)
Of sending him far from his home?
Only to think of the *sham*;
"Give *him* position and means,"
Feed *him* on poultry and ham,
When he'd rather have bacon and beans!

Isn't it *selfish* to ask
Sambo, *his* fortune to raise?
Isn't it *cruel* to task
His powers, his mind for to craze?
Go to Liberia, *indeed!*
What would *he* gain by the change?
"Learn *him* to write and to read;"
Give *his* ideas "full range!"

Give *him* a farm or a lot,
Food and support half a year;
Build *him* a snug little cot,
Shield *him* from poverty's fear!
Give *him* a citizen's right;
Open *his* pathway to fame;
Give *him* a "voter's proud might,
Local position and name!"

Learn *him* "the savage to break,
Light of the Gospel to shed!"
Help *him* "improvement to make!"
NONSENSE!—he only needs bread.
Keep him in servitude here;
Kick him and knock him around;
Starve him, for isn't it clear
He only encumbers the ground!

What if he lingers in woe,
Who Sambo's trials regard?
Send him to Africa?—no!
That would indeed be *too hard!*

NEW YORK CITY.

(Correspondence of The Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 14, 1863.

THE GREAT CONFLAGRATION.

As a general rule our winter seasons are ushered in by conflagrations of greater or less extent; and in this respect the cold term of 1863 in nowise falls behind that of preceding years for the past quarter of a century. Between Monday and Thursday property to the estimated amount of nearly six hundred thousand dollars has been destroyed by fire. On Monday night the ship St. Louis, running hence to New Orleans, was partially consumed with her cargo. At the same time one of the splendid buildings in a central portion of Broadway was literally destroyed, the disaster involving a loss of nearly one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and on Wednesday the crowning conflagration took place, destroying three hundred thousand dollars' worth in addition. This last fire had wellnigh swelled the story of disaster beyond even the point of speculation. It originated in a barge at one of the Hudson-river piers, and in almost breathing time enveloped twelve piers in flames. Along certain portions of the river fronts stationary barges answer instead of buildings. Along the East river these are mostly devoted to the sale of fishes, oysters, etc. On the Hudson, however, they are employed as storehouses for ice and hay. The Cora Campbell, upon which the fire originated, was a hay barge; the inflammable cargo being stored upon the deck. A few sparks from the stovepipe falling upon the bales induced the conflagration. The day was raw and gusty, and the sharp winds blowing down the harbor carried the flames across the pier. In an instant the forest of masts blazed up. From pier to pier the flames leaped bodily, as though impelled by some hateful impulse. The yellow, suffocating smoke drove up the narrow streets, and hung in stagnant folds along the low buildings of the contracted, tortuous ways. All day the city was choked with the strangling vapors. At one time the buildings along the river front blazed. Flaming bits blew from the riggings, and spun off upon the winds, like pyrotechnics. The scene presented, when the fire was at its height, had all the adjuncts of a terrible beauty. Against the sombre background of smoke the masts stood up like columns of fretted gold, or the staffs of censers, of which the "tops" served as bodies. Beneath, every hull glowed like a furnace. Here, the flames leaped against some new object, and ran up the rigging like serpents. There, some tall mast reeled in the wind and tumbled; or consumed, as it were, in an instant, by the intolerable heat of the blaze, sank down in ashes.

Had the wind increased, or had it veered toward the city, the very heart of the metropolis might have been involved in conflagration. As it was, the danger seemed most imminent. From time to time, the roofs and window-sashes, literally charred by the heat, would burst into minute flames; but the firemen, by prompt measures, prevented the spread of the fire cityward. From a distance, the sight is said to have resembled a burning of prairies. Some thirty craft were destroyed before nightfall, and two men perished in the flames. Had the disaster occurred at night, the loss, both of property and life, must have been much greater.

THE RESULT OF THE "CHESAPEAKE" PIRACY.

If further evidence of metropolitan disgrace is needed, it can be found in the presence of traitors in our midst. The seizure of the steamer Chesapeake has called public attention to the swarms of pirates and cut-throats who, encouraged by the reign of their political affinities, are making New York their headquarters. At least one Confederate officer walks our streets daily, and frequents our theatres, in full uniform, without molestation or any practical espionage. At least one of our great hotels is notorious as a resort of the vilest creatures of treason, and the proprietor openly exults in the disreputable character of his house. A score of our well-known boarding-houses bear a similar repute; and on every side the loyal ear is offended by open expressions of treasonable sympathy. It has been previously mentioned that the political complexion of the city has improved of late, that proper reforms have been inaugurated, and that some of the political vampyres, who have for so long fed upon us, have been hurled from power. But this improvement is only initiatory and circumscribed. The Chesapeake affair seems to have aroused our authorities to some apprehension of the danger which threatens us from the fire-brands in our midst. The police and detective forces are urged to keep a vigilant eye upon these disreputable characters, and to arrest all against whom the proper evidence can be obtained. How this espionage will result remains to be seen. Of course, the Woods, McCunns, and Brookses will augment their dismal howlings over arbitrary arrests and encroaching despotism; and, perhaps, for a time there will be no repetitions of piracy consummated upon vessels sailing from this port. But these sudden fevers of vigilance seldom outlast a fortnight. Metropolitan propriety is notoriously short-lived.

THE FAMILIES OF VOLUNTEERS.

Effective measures are being taken by public-spirited citizens for the relief of families of volunteers during the present winter. In connection with the subject it may be mentioned that a rather singular project, which is now on foot, has been embodied in a resolution offered by one of the City Fathers. It appropriates a suitable sum for the erection of a public monument, in honor of the *Catholic soldiers* who have fallen during the war. Our City Fathers are evincing a most fervent zeal in behalf of the Romish Church, to the utter exclusion of the Protestant. Perhaps Philadelphia, which has had a strange experience in matters relevant to the subject, can inform us of the ultimate objects of this religious enthusiasm.

STUYVESANT.

CAMPBELL'S "HOHENLINDEN."—Every Englishman remembers Campbell's noble poem of "Hohenlinden;" but few perhaps had considered, until Sir Edward Cust led the way, how entirely that poem misrepresents all the circumstances of the battle which it has made so famous. It is about as near the fact as is David's celebrated picture of Bonaparte crossing the Alps on a prancing charger to the reality of the passage of the St. Bernard. The essence of the poetical Hohenlinden is a night attack; but the true battle of Hohenlinden began at eight or nine o'clock in the morning. It is very likely that the river Iser flows swift and dark in winter, but it flows many miles from Hohenlinden; it does indeed wash the walls of Munich, and banners may have been waved upon those walls; nor would their waving have had less influence upon the battle because invisible, through distance from the scene. The only feature common to the real and the imaginary spectacle was the snow, which fell heavily during, although it did not cover the ground before the battle. Perhaps the poet never heard that slush and mud were the allies of France at Hohenlinden, and that Moreau won the battle by judging accurately how long his assailant would stick and struggle in the forest paths, where it was no more possible to rush to glory than it is to gallop over an Alpine ridge.

TRUE RELIGIOUS FEELING MORE IMPORTANT THAN DOCTRINE.—Great as is the importance of true religious doctrine—which is, as it were, the body of religion—it is, nevertheless, an importance subsidiary and derivative; it is derived from the efficacy of true religious doctrine to cherish and protect the growth of genuine religious feeling, which is the soul of religion. The opinions are the organic structure; the feelings are the vital principle. It is for the sake of the feelings that the organization is so important; and I think, therefore, that religious truths, or what the parent believes to be religious truths, should be presented to children through the conveyance of the feelings for implicit adoption, and not as matters to be wrought out in the understanding. For the primary object, which is to fix the feeling, will be in some measure frustrated—the feeling will be in some measure abated or supplanted—if more thought be called up than the feeling of its own mere motion will naturally generate.—*Henry Taylor.*

GENERAL GORDON GRANGER, ONE OF THE HEROES OF "LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN."

OUR PRISONERS IN RICHMOND—SHALL WE BE ALLOWED TO FEED THEM?

(From the Richmond Enquirer, Dec. 8.)

The permission granted the enemy to send their prisoners clothes and provisions having been abused to the detriment of our cause, *should be withdrawn.* It has subjected us to insult from a dastardly enemy, to charges of purloining the things sent, for our own use. We hope that notice will be given that no more will be received. The Secretary of War has given orders that no abatement of rations should be made because of these supplies, hence their reception does not relieve in the least our commissariat. The privileges we grant to the enemy's prisoners is withheld from our own, now confined in the United States. *In one instance that has come to our knowledge boxes sent to prisoners have been appropriated by the guard—and this done because sent by sympathizers in the enemy's lines.*

But the abuse and falsehood of our enemy relieves us from all duty to let them feed their prisoners, and Commissioner Meredith's conduct in pretending that he was not sure that the provisions sent reached the prisoners, should cause our authorities to notify the enemy that we will no longer hold communication with them through the medium of such a knave and fool as this Meredith has shown himself to be. Exposed and discomfitted in his discussion with Commissioner Ould, he has his revenge in publishing falsehoods where he knows contradiction and exposure are denied us, and revels in the latitude of a lie with all the facility and pleasure for which his countrymen are so remarkable.

This permission to supply their prisoners, quiets the public sentiment that was fast compelling an exchange of prisoners; and it reconciles their people to the imprisonment of the Yankees in Richmond, because they know that the articles sent by them are just so many luxuries which are denied to our prisoners in the United States. *We repeat, let it be stopped forthwith.*

GREAT DINNER AT THE LIBBY.

(From the Richmond Examiner, December 6.)

The Yankee officers at the Libby Prison will, we understand, celebrate their captivity, the present week, by a splendid dinner, served up on the table d'hôte of the prison, and embracing a bill of fare unequalled in Richmond or the South since this cruel war commenced. The viands for this *recherché* "reunion" have been put up in the North, expressly for the great occasion, and are now being received by every flag-of-truce steamer. New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, are vieing with each other in their lavish of money, and the richness and extent of their gastronomic contributions. The Confederate authorities have kindly seconded the generous movement, and will act as chief cook and bottle washer on the stupendous occasion. A few outside invitations have been extended to the "lean and hungry" Richmond officials, not including the Commissioner of Exchange, the commandant of the Libby Prison post, the President, members of Congress, and the Cabinet.

Brigadier General Neal Dow will preside at the head, and Colonel Streight at the foot of the table.

After the "removal of the cloth," toasts, wit, and sentiment—all at the expense of the Confederacy—will be the order of the day.

We have been favored with a glance of an advance proof of the bill of fare, and print its items, notwithstanding we are sure it will aggravate the feelings of our soldiers in the field, and the feelings of Confederate prisoners North, when they compare this sumptuous living with their own poor and scanty fare.

Among the epicurian viands named in the bill is sugar-cured ham, spiced beef, round of beef, beef tongue, chickens, oysters in cans, pickled tripe, ditto tomatoes, peaches, marmalade, soda crackers, cheese, potatoes, "unions," cabbages, butter, lemons, extract coffee, condensed milk, chocolate, apples, preserved peaches, preserved quinces, pound cake, fruit cake, wine, cordials, and a variety of entrees, side dishes, etc.

Each consignment from the North and designed for the feast, is put up *a la Fulton,* stamped with his signet seal, "C. C. F.," and distinctly marked "From the Office of the Baltimore *American.*" So there can be no mistake as to whom we are indebted, if any of the crumbs of the feast should fall to our lot.

We understand the fragments of the feast, if any are left, have been generously tendered to the poor of Richmond, who are suffering from the effects of the rigid blockade enforced by the Lincoln Government. This is exceedingly generous in our prisoner-guests, for which we are profoundly grateful.

BUST OF SHAKSPEARE.—In anticipation of the approaching celebration of Shakspeare's birthday, there has already sprung up a demand for relics and memorials of the poet. Fragments of Herne's Oak and the old rafters of the barn at New place, Stratford-on-Avon, are now anxiously sought after. A block of oak fifteen inches long from the latter place has already been carved for a member of the Memorial Fund by Mr. William Perry, the wood-carver to the Queen, into a graceful bust of the poet. The artist has, it appears, studied the Stratford bust and Mr. James Boaden's commentary on the various portraits, and from the impressions so gleaned worked out his idea of Shakspeare's appearance in middle life. The oval face, arched eyebrows, lofty forehead, and regular features, universally attributed to the poet, are, however, to the credit of the artist, represented without the smirk of the Stratford bust or that look of modern shrewdness which spoils the best known of recent portraits. The moustache and the "peaked beard" suggests to some extent the French fashions of the day, and the form of the head tempts one to suspect that Mr. Perry has too much faith in phrenology. Upon the whole, however, the figure is admirable, and in excellent keeping with the devices representing Tragedy and Comedy, and the coat of arms carved upon the pedestal. The whole work is characterized by a justness in the proportion of parts, and a delicacy of finish, which we rarely expect to meet within any sculpture not in stone, and well illustrates the progress recently made in artistic wood carving.—*London Daily News.*

MASSACHUSETTS.—There is a story of old Stephen Girard, that a messenger once rode with some excitement to his country place, to acquaint him that one of his ships had come safely into port. The messenger found Girard in the fields raking hay; he ran up breathless with haste and excitement, and to Girard's anxious inquiry "What's the matter now?" shouted out the good news. The old man quietly went on with his hay, saying, "Is that all? why, man, Girard's ships always come home." So the country might say of Massachusetts. That State has never been called on in vain. In the field of war or in the field of politics she has been alike constant, true, and ready; so that when the country learns that yesterday she gave a vote larger than usual for the Union and against copperheads and rebel sympathizers, it will be apt to say, as old Stephen Girard did of his ships, "Is that all? that is what we expected." It is perhaps the highest praise a community could have.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

A LONDON PUBLISHER.—Henry G. Bohn is the Napoleon of booksellers in ambition, ability, and energy. His energy is immense, and grasps his great business, both in bulk and in detail, with the comprehensiveness of a general who is master of the situation. Not content with daily purchases of tons of remainders and with printing shiploads of libraries—planning, selecting, editing, translating, and annotating—he finds time withal to write books himself; and, in the midst of all his immense pressure of care and labor, he used scarcely to permit his most experienced clerk to sell a single old book from the shelves to the trade without consulting him as to the price. So enormous was the amount of work which he undertook, that, though naturally strong and vigorous, it was said he had weekly visits from his surgeon to be examined as to how far endurance could be carried. Mr. Bohn is not only a thorough bibliographer and editor, but has himself translated such things as Schiller's plays from the German, and has prepared for the press a good many volumes of classical literature requiring industrious and learned research.

FORWARD, WITHOUT "DUBLIN."—The following incident is from a private letter of an officer on board the U. S. steam frigate Colorado. The order "without doubling," means to "not form four abreast, which is always done when you right face the company unless the [illegible] order is given." The officer writes: "We have a will Irishman on board the ship who the sailors call 'Dublin.' I was exercising my division at the ride drill the other day, when I gave the order, 'Company! without doubling—right face, forward march.' The company moved on, when I noticed this man standing still. I halted the company, walked back to where the Irishman was standing, and asked him why he did not fall in and march with the company. He touched his cap and said, 'Shure, sir, I thought your honor said, "without Dublin," so I stud fast.'"

A VIRGINIA FAMILY SCENE.

While on our recent march the 2d Corps and the 3d division of the 6th Corps halted on Sunday, the 29th, thirteen miles from Orange Court House, for the night, and I improved the opportunity to visit a log house, which stood in full range of the enemy's guns, and over whose lonely roof the solid shot hummed, and the ugly shell screeched as they tore through the air on their errands of death. Upon knocking at the door of the gloomy habitation, which had a deserted appearance, I was met by a trembling youth of fifteen years, who stood motionless and pale as a ghost at the side of a terrified and weeping group of children. Entering the door, I found a clean and tidy, but comfortless and poverty-stricken apartment, whose furniture consisted of an ancient loom, draped in cobwebs and covered with dust, a speaking picture of the sad changes of war, whose harsh tones had silenced the hum of the implements of peace, and beat the ploughshare into the sharp sword of death. An old bedstead, covered with clean comforters, a silent clock which refused to tick, an old looking-glass, half a dozen antique chairs, whose venerable forms carried one back to the time of the Pilgrim Fathers, with a barrel, and a few primitive cooking utensils, completed the stock of earthly goods within this cheerless dwelling. One small window of four panes of glass emitted a feeble, gloomy light, too weak to penetrate to all the corners of the room. The rough-hewn logs were cemented with clay, or, more properly speaking, Virginia mud, and the interior was whitewashed.

I found the tears coursing down the cheeks of eight orphans, two boys and six girls, ranging in age from five to twenty-two years. The three youngest were barefooted, and the eldest girl informed me that they had never worn any shoes. After I had quieted their tears as much as possible, Brigadier General W. D. Terry, commanding 3d Division 6th Corps, came in, and, upon beholding their destitute condition, he very humanely ordered Captain Davis, his efficient provost marshal, to place a strong guard around the house, and not allow a rail or any portion of the property to be disturbed. He generously detailed several men to chop a quantity of wood for the use of the family, and our soldiers volunteered to do it freely, when they learned of the deplorable situation of the family. While sitting there before the log-fire, which burned brightly on the open hearth, casting its weird-like shadows on the wall, we ventured to ask some questions, as usual with Yankees, whose inquisitive bump is acknowledged to be considerably larger than the rest of the human family.

Not a book or newspaper could be seen, and upon inquiry we learn that not one of the family could read or write. We asked them how they managed to occupy their time, and were told in spinning and sewing. Not one of the family knew what we meant by the American flag, and not till I pulled from my coat pocket a small illuminated almanac, adorned with the Stars and Stripes, had they ever beheld the emblem of their country. The eldest boy of fifteen, who performed all the hard labor of the small farm of thirty acres, had never seen a locomotive, and did not know what a lemon was. When asked if they ever heard of a God, they replied they had—but none could tell where He was. Meat they had not tasted of any kind for two months. Tea, coffee, butter, rice, sugar, and molasses they had not tasted for over two years. George Washington they never heard of until we informed them. As the family huddled together in one corner of the room, gazing at the strange and war-like group around them, while the artillery hoarsely boomed, and the musketry along our picket lines rattled, it was a tableaux whose dismal shades tinted the steeled hearts present with compassion and deep pity. More than one "Yankee" eye glistened with the moisture of the briny tear, which unnoticed stole slowly down from the windows of the soul. A tomb-like silence prevailed for a moment or two, broken only by the sobs of the terrified children and the peal of the enemy's cannon.

The mother had been dead two years, and the father had been conscripted into the rebel army, where disease overtook him and laid him in his grave. The next morning at daylight we broke camp and resumed our march. Before leaving, Gen. Terry and Captain Tilley, quartermaster of his division, gave the family $100 in payment for a few split rails which our troops had burned.

CONDITIONS OF RELIGIOUS UNITY.—Most men, of any religious training at all, have probably got truth enough, so far as regards the mere furnishing of mental material. The need with them is to feel it, and understand it, and apply it. Most men's convictions are most lively and effectual when narrowed to a single point. Paul hinged everything on justification by faith, and was determined to "know nothing but Christ and him crucified." John had nothing of that, but preached the simple love of God, and his word made flesh abiding with us." Yet, from these opposite poles, each comprehended the whole sphere of the Gospel truth. Two eminent men of the last generation were born within a month of each other, and died not far apart—Chalmers and Channing. One took the gospel of grace, and the other the gospel of humanity; each did his work, one which the other could not possibly have done; and the world well understands that from the religion of this nineteenth century neither could be spared. Every Christian sect, every honest and earnest man, carries the germ of what in its full ripeness should be the salvation of the world. It is only when Protestantism has had its perfect work, when each has followed out his own method, in entire freedom and absolute sincerity, that the conditions are secured of that higher religious unity, for which Protestantism, these three hundred years, has sought and sighed in vain.—*Christian Examiner.*

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—The Washington correspondent of the New York *Journal of Commerce* writes that a curious and interesting discovery has just been made in the Department of State, bearing upon the boundary line between the State of Minnesota and the British provinces. From time immemorial, all the maps that have come before the public have represented the dividing line as barely touching the utmost southern extremity of the Lake of the Woods, and then passing directly to the westward. A recent investigation of the maps and treaty touching this matter has brought to light the fact that the boundary-line, after reaching the lake, passes through one-half of its centre, thence westward up an extensive bay or arm, then directly south again, until it reaches the main meridian, and then continues to the west. The upshot of the story is, that Minnesota has a big lump of valuable land which she did not know belonged to her, and that she has full command of the Lake of the Woods.

THE LATEST HOOP SKIRT.—Boston papers relate that the mate of a vessel lying at a Boston wharf visited an institution on North street one night last week. When he awoke in the morning, his roommate had gone and taken all his clothes, and he could get no one to the place to help him to any others. He was very anxious to return to his vessel, but his under garment was the only one left, and that was not of sufficient dimensions to answer all the requirements of the occasion. He finally procured the loan of a headless flour barrel and got into it; holding the barrel at a sufficient height to comply with the demands of decency, he marched down the wharf, and arrived at his vessel before she sailed. His appearance on the street created quite a sensation.

STUPIDITY OF A VERDICT.—The following story of "twelve gentlemen of the jury" in England, who sat upon the case of a man found dead in a sand pit, surpasses, in the stupid fatuity of the jurors, anything which American records could present: "They first returned a verdict of 'manslaughter.' The coroner recapitulated the testimony adduced, and sent them back. They re-entered the court with, 'We find the deceased was still-born.' For a third time they were dismissed, with Lord Campbell's well-known formula, 'Gentlemen, you will retire to consider of your verdict—this man was found dead in a sand pit.' So they avoided technicalities, and came soundly to the conclusion, 'that the said Hubert Delawney is dead, and died of sand!'"

A WHITE MAN TURNING BLACK.—An authentic instance of a white man turning black is related by Dr. Dickson, of the British embassy at the Levant. The subject is an Armenian, twenty-eight years of age. He was laid up for two years with a severe sickness, which was followed by intermittent fever of a year's duration, and this in turn by an attack of the jaundice. During the last illness the color of the patient's skin changed from yellow to bronze, and as fast as this change progressed his health improved. At present the entire surface of his skin, excepting the palms of his hands and the soles of his feet, is of a very deep bronze hue, such as marks the color of the dark Abyssinian races. The medical term for this disease is *melanopathia.*

MONEY MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15, 1863.

This was another rather inactive and dull day on Third street. Gold was when it fell off to 1[illegible] steady at 150¾ until near the close, period during the morning at that figure. At one Money is plentifully offered, it was selling up to 150⅞. of borrowers. Capital is at six per cent., with a lack such an extent that it cannot accumulate, and to there is so much money somewhat lie idle. Wherever real estate, stocks, or merchandise must move. Either active demand. The present panic in favor is more is owing to the late scarcity of money, and speculation sition to operate so near the close of the year. Indisposition of Congress also create a feeling of uncertainty; we do not know what measures will be taken to adjust for the public good, or by what wire-pulling the nation's prosperity may be checked. But the large surplus of capital must find employment. If no temporary or permanent lodgment is effected, it must run into the channels of speculation; and whenever loaning becomes profitless, the temptations offered at the stock board are sufficient to control the avidity of holders. Matters are dull at the stock exchange, but prices are steady, a quiet demand absorbing all the stock offered. A sale of five-twenties was made at 100½, and one at 100⅝. Reading shares sold from 59⅝ to 60⅛; Catawissa preferred at 31⅞@31½; Huntingdon and Broad Top at 30; Pennsylvania at 70; Little Schuylkill at 52; Erie and Elmira at 19½; Susquehanna Canal at 16⅞; Navigation preferred at 33¾; Penn Mining at 6¼; Morris Canal preferred at 136½; Lehigh scrip at 49½; North Pennsylvania closed at 34½; Long Island sold at 39; Philadelphia and Erie at 29½; Minehill at 61; Northern Liberty Bank sold at 66; Mechanics' at 27¾. The market closed firm.

Drexel & Co. quote:

United States Bonds, 1881	108¾@108⅞
U. S. new Certificates of Indebtedness	98 @ 98¼
U. S. old Certificates of Indebtedness	102½@102¾
U. S. 7 3-10 Notes	106¾@106⅞
Quartermasters' Vouchers	97½@ 98
Orders for Certificates of Indebtedness	⅜@ 1c¼
Gold	150 @ 50¾
Sterling Exchange	164½@165¼

We are indebted to the Hon. James Pollock, Director of the Mint, for the following statement of the deposits and coinage at the United States Mint, for the month of November, 1863:

DEPOSITS.

Gold deposits from all sources	$276,020 58
Silver deposits, including purchases	51,302 69
Total deposits	$327,323 27

GOLD COINAGE.

	No. of pieces.	Value.
Double eagles	9,710	$194,200 00
Three dollars	5,000	15,000 00
Dollars	1,000	$1,000 00
Fine bars	41	21,120 80
Total	15,751	$231,320 80

SILVER.

Half dollars	44,800	22,400 00
Fine bars	2	1,245 19
Total	44,802	$23,645 19

COPPER.

Cents	4,270,000	$42,700 00

RECAPITULATION.

Gold coinage	15,751	$231,320 80
Silver	44,802	23,645 19
Copper	4,270,000	42,700 00
Total	4,330,553	$297,665 99

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

DECEMBER 15—Evening.

Trade has been languid and dull in most departments during the week. Bark is unchanged. Breadstuffs are in fair request, and Wheat and Corn are lower. Oats are active. Candles are in better demand. Coal is very dull and prices unsettled. Cotton is quiet. Coffee is scarce, and prices are rather better. Fish are rather dull. In Fruit there is more doing. The iron market continues very firm. In Lumber there is less doing. Naval Stores are scarce, and prices unchanged. Provisions of all kinds are firmly held, but there is very little doing. Oils are in fair demand. Petroleum has advanced. Linseed is firm. Seeds—There is more doing. Sugar is dull. Whisky is better. Wool is less active.

The Flour market continues inactive and dull, but without any material change to note in prices; sales comprise about 8,000 barrels mostly good Ohio family, at $7.50@7.75 ℔ barrel, including 600 barrels Western extra at $7.25, and a small lot of high grade family at $9.12½. The retailers and bakers are buying moderately, at from $5.75@6.25 for superfine; $7@7.25 for extra; $7.60@8.50 for extra family; and fancy brands at from $9@11 ℔ barrel as to quality. Rye Flour is in demand, with small sales at from $6.50@6.75 ℔ barrel. In Corn Meal there is very little doing; Pennsylvania is offered at $5.50, and Brandywine $6 ℔ barrel.

GRAIN.—There is not much demand for Wheat, and the market is dull; about 40,000 bus have been sold at from $1.60@1.68 ℔ bu for fair to prime Western and Pennsylvania reds, and white, which is very dull, at $1.80@2 ℔ bu, the latter for prime Kentucky. Rye is scarce, with sales of 700 bus at $1.35. Corn is dull, and prices are lower, with sales of 30,000 bus at from $1.04@1.08 for new, and $1.18@1.22 ℔ bu for prime old yellow. Oats are firm and in demand, with sales of 20,000 bus Delaware and Pennsylvania at 87@88c, weight. 1,000 bus Barley Malt sold at $1.65 ℔ bu.

The following are the receipts of Flour and Grain at this port during the past week:

Flour	17,872 bbls.
Wheat	78,300 bush.
Corn	43,000 bush.
Oats	37,000 bush.

PROVISIONS.—There is less doing, but prices are without change. Old Mess Pork is selling at $18@18.50 ℔ bbl. City-packed Mess Beef is in steady demand at $14@16, and country at $11@12 ℔ bbl. 100 bbls Beef Hams sold on private terms. There is a fair inquiry for Bacon, but the stock is very light. Hams are selling at 11@13c for plain and fancy. Sides at 9c, and Shoulders at 7½@7¾c ℔ lb. Green Meats are also scarce. 500 casks Hams in pickle sold at 11@11½c, Shoulders at 7¼@7½c ℔ lb. Lard is less active; sales of bbls and tierces are making at 12¾@13½c, and kegs at 13@13½c ℔ lb. Butter is in steady demand, with sales of glades at 27c, and solid packed at from 16@22c ℔ lb. Cheese is quiet at 13@16c ℔ lb. Eggs are selling at 27@28c ℔ dozen.

METALS.—The stock of Pig Iron is very light, and holders rather firmer in their views, with small sales of No. 1 at $41, 2500 tons No. 2 at $40@41, and No. 3 at $37@38 ℔ ton. Manufactured Iron is in demand at full rates. Lead is very scarce; 50 tons of English sold in New York to come here at 9¾c, cash. Copper—There is very little doing, and prices are unchanged.

BARK.—Quercitron is in steady demand, with sales of 160 hhds first No. 1 at $35@36 ℔ ton.

CANDLES.—Adamantine are in fair demand, with sales of 1,000 boxes city-made at 10@21c ℔ lb, cash, for 6s and 12s.

COFFEE.—Holders are firmer in their views, but there is very little stock to operate in; small sales of 450 bags of Rio are making at 31½@34½c ℔ lb, and Laguayra at 34@35c, cash and 4 months.

COTTON.—The market is very quiet, manufacturers purchasing only to supply their immediate wants; about 100 bales sold in lots, at 8[illegible]@82c ℔ lb cash for middlings.

COAL.—Prices are unsettled, and the market is very dull; most buyers are holding off for lower prices.

DRUGS AND DYES.—There is not much doing; sales of Soda Ash are making at 3½c, and white Sugar of Lead 22c; Castor Oil has advanced; Indigo is scarce and high.

FISH.—There is very little demand for Mackerel, and the sales are mostly from store at $16@17 ℔ bbl for No. 1; $9.75@11.50 for No. 2; and $6.75@9 to ℔ bbl for medium and large 3s. In Pickled Herring there is very little doing; 1,500 boxes Smoked Herring sold at 40c and 30c for scaled and No. 1. Codfish are selling at 6¾@7 ℔ lb.

FRUIT.—Raisins are in fair demand, with sales at from $4.10@4.25 ℔ box for bunch and layers. In dried fruit there is more doing; 8,000 lbs dried Apples sold at 8½@9½c ℔ lb, which is an advance; 10,000 lbs dried Peaches sold on private terms. Green Apples are coming in and selling freely at $2.50@3 ℔ bbl; Cranberries range at from $7 up to $10 ℔ bbl.

FREIGHTS.—To Liverpool and London there is very little doing, and the rates are unchanged. Two small vessels were taken to the West Indies on private terms. A ship is loading for San Francisco at 37½c ℔ foot and 1c ℔ lb. Several Coal charters for the Government are reported at $3.25 to New Orleans and $4 to Port Royal. The rates to the Eastward are without change.

FEATHERS are firmly held. Small sales of good Western are reported at 60@62c, cash.

GUANO is out of season, and there is nothing doing to alter quotations.

HOPS are without change, with small sales of 1st sort Eastern and Western at 27@30c.

HIDES.—The Dry Hide market has been quiet, and confined to sales to tanners from second hands. Some fine lots of Buenos Ayres Hides have been sent out during the week, mostly on dealers' accounts; tanners are not buying freely. In Green Salted Hides there has been little doing; country tanners are generally buying at home nearly as many as they desire to lay in at present, and are, therefore, not buying of city dealers and salters. The latter have generally a fair stock in store, and are offering at slight concessions. The Association are selling at 12c for cow and 13c for steer, with a demand that keeps the heavy hides sold up to receipts. Salters are offering 11½@12½c for steer and 11@12c for cow.

HAY is unsettled, and selling at $23@25 ℔ ton.

LEATHER.—The leather market has been rather quiet. The demand for all descriptions has somewhat abated, and more dry hides and slaughter leather are offering than recently. In the lighter leathers there is little that is new; receipts are moderate, and sales are made at about recent ruling rates. Slaughter Sole—Most of the prime lots of rough country slaughter find ready buyers when not held above the market considerable inferior stock is offering, but is not as readily taken as one month ago. There is no great accumulation in the market and prices have been steady; we quote the same as last week. Spanish Sole—The sales have been moderate except in prime heavy and overweight Buenos Ayres; some middle and light leather is in store. Very prime heavy Buenos Ayres leather will sell for 42c, six months; but the usual run of Buenos Ayres has been sold at 40@41c. Orinoco and other descriptions of oak sole are selling at 38@40c for best, and 34@35c for damaged.

LUMBER.—The demand has fallen off. White Pine Boards are selling at $25@30; Yellow Pine do at $24@26, and Shingles at $15@25 ℔ M.

MOLASSES.—There is very little doing. The only sale we hear of is by auction, including 380 bbls New Orleans at from 48@65c, cash, and 107 hhds Cuba at 41@44c, four months.

NAVAL STORES.—There is very little doing in either Rosin, Tar, or Pitch. Spirits of Turpentine is selling in a small way at $3.15 ℔ gallon.

OILS.—Lard Oil is scarce, and the sales in a small way only at $1@1.10 ℔ gallon. A sale of Winter Sperm was made at $1.85. Linseed Oil is in demand, and selling at $1.43@1.45 ℔ gallon. Petroleum is firmer, but about 1,800 bbls sold at 29@30c for Crude, 44@46c for Refined in bond, and 53@58c ℔ gallon for free, as to quality.

The following are the receipts of Crude and Refined at this port during the past week:

Crude	5,470 bbls.
Refined	5,740 bbls.

PLASTER is scarce; the last cargo of Soft was sold at $4.75 ℔ ton.

RICE continues scarce; small sales are making at 7½@7¾c ℔ lb.

SEEDS.—Clover is scarce and in demand, with sales of 500 bus, in lots, at $7@7.60 ℔ 64 lbs. Timothy is in steady demand at $2.50@2.75. Flaxseed is selling at $3.15 ℔ bus; 7,500 bus sold at this rate.

SALT is firm; a cargo of Turks Island sold at [illegible], and one of Turks Island has come direct to a dealer, and 7,200 sacks Liverpool sold on private terms.

SPIRITS.—All kinds are firm and advancing, with small sales of Brandy, Gin, and Rum. Whisky has again advanced, with sales of bbls at 89@90c, and Drudge at [illegible] ℔ gallon.

SUGAR.—There is very little stock here to operate in, and the market is dull; small sales of Cuba are making at 12@13½c ℔ lb.

TALLOW.—There is less doing; sales of Country are making at 11¼@11½c, and City Rendered at 12@12¼c ℔ lb.

TOBACCO.—Manufactured is in good demand, at full prices. Pennsylvania Seed Leaf is in fair demand, with small sales at from 12 up to 24c ℔ lb.

WOOL.—There is less doing, but prices are without any material change; about 100,000 lbs have been sold at prices ranging from 70@85c ℔ lb, for Fleece and Tub.

PHILADELPHIA CATTLE MARKET.

DECEMBER 14, 1863.

The arrivals and sales of Beef Cattle at Phillips' Avenue Drove Yard are moderate, reaching about 2,075 head. The market is dull, but prices are without any material change. First quality Pennsylvania and Western Steers are selling at from 10½@11½c; 2d do at 9@10c, and common at from 7@8c ℔ lb, as to quality. The market closed very dull, and about 400 head of common Cattle were left over.

COWS are unchanged; about 120 head sold at from $18 up to $45 ℔ head.

SHEEP are active, with sales of about 4,000 head at prices ranging from 6@6½c ℔ lb gross.

HOGS are in demand at former rates; about 6,800 head sold at from $7.50@9 the 100 lbs net.

The cattle on sale to-day are from the following States: 850 head from Pennsylvania; 645 head from Illinois; 520 head from Ohio; 31 head from Maryland.

P. McFillen, 100 Western Steers, selling at from 7@11c ℔ lb for common to extra.

A. M. Fuller & Co., 120 Western Steers, selling at from 9c for common to good.

[illegible] & Shriver, 53 Western Steers, selling at from 8½@10c, P. Hite, for fair to extra.

[illegible] Way, 67 Chester county Steers, selling at from 9@11c, for common to extra quality.

Ullman & Robinson, 55 Chester county Steers, selling at from 10@11c, for good to extra.

Jones McClese, 60 Western Steers, selling at from 9@10c for common to good.

B. C. Baldwin, 41 Chester county Steers, selling at from 8@11c for common to extra.

Mooney & Smith, 175 Western Steers, selling at from 8½@11c for fair to extra.

John Kirwin, 152 Western Steers, selling at from 8@10½c for common to extra.

Christy & Bro., 115 Western Steers, selling at from 8@10½c for common to extra.

Shomberg & Co., 104 Western Steers, selling at from 8@10c for common to good.

D. Branson, 23 Chester county Steers, selling at from 9@10½c for fair to good.

Wm. Rice, 112 Illinois Steers, selling at from 8@9½c ℔ lb for common to extra.

COWS AND CALVES.

The arrivals and sales of Cows at Phillips' Avenue Drove Yard reach about 120 head this week. There is a good demand, and prices remain about the same as last quoted. Springers selling at $18@30, and Cow and Calf at from $25 up to $45 ℔ head, as to quality. Old poor Cows are selling at from $14@15 ℔ head.

CALVES.—About 30 head sold to-day, at prices ranging from 4½@5½c ℔ lb, as to weight and condition.

THE SHEEP MARKET.

The arrivals and sales of Sheep at Phillips' Avenue Drove Yard reach about 4,000 head this week. The market is firm, and prices are well maintained, ranging at from 6@6½c ℔ lb gross for fat Sheep. Lambs are rather scarce, and sell at from $3.50@5.50 ℔ head.

THE HOG MARKET.

The arrivals and sales of Hogs at the Union, Avenue, and Rising Sun Drove Yards, reach about 6,800 head this week. The market is firm, and prices are without any material change, ranging from $7.50@9 the 100 lbs, net.

5,600 head sold at Glass' Union Drove Yard at from $7.60@8.75 the 100 lbs, net.

799 head sold at the Avenue Drove Yard at from $8@9 the 100 lbs net.

400 head sold at Phillips & Muth's Rising Sun Drove Yard, at from $8@9 the 100 lbs, net, according to quality.

ARMY HOSPITAL REPORT.—The following report of the Army Hospitals, was received at the Medical Director's Office on Monday, for the week ending December 12th, 1863:

HOSPITALS.	No. admitted.	No. returned to duty.	No. discharged.	No. deserted.	No. died.	No. remaining.
Chestnut Hill	3	43	8	..	1	1,140
Citizens' Volunteer	..	..	..	..	..	46
Broad and Cherry	11	57	1	..	..	407
Officers', Camac's Woods	1	2	..	..	..	25
South street	1	..	1	..	..	226
Sixty-fifth and Vine streets	1	..	5	..	..	141
Satterlee	4	66	1	..	3	1,301
McClellan	3	29	6	3	..	451
Cuyler, Germantown	..	30	..	3	..	478
Islington lane	..	..	..	..	..	3
Fort Mifflin	2	1	..	..	..	16
Chester	1	2	..	..	1	295
Christian street	10	4	2	1	1	192
Turner's Lane	2	4	3	1	..	124
Filbert Street	12	26	1	1	..	266
York, Pa.	124	22	2	..	..	678
Cotton Factory, Harrisburg	9	3	..	2	81	64
Walnut st., Harrisburg	..	3	..	4	..	....
Town Hall, Chambersburg	2	1	9	..	..	48
Total	175	282	30	15	7	5,682

MARRIED.

GROVERMAN—KNOWLES.—On Tuesday, December 1, 1863, at St. James' Church, Kingsessing, by Rev. Charles A. Malson, A. Groverman, Jr., of Baltimore, Md., to Lydia P., daughter of John C. Knowles, Esq., of Delaware county, Pa. No cards.

ROBINSON—FRYER.—On Tuesday, November 24, by Rev. P. S. Henson, Mr. John P. Robinson to Miss Mary A. Fryer.

CASPER—FRY.—On the 5th instant, in Philadelphia, by the Rev. J. Hyatt Smith, Thomas J. Casper, M. D., of West Chester, Pa., to Emma V., daughter of John Fry, Esq., of Philadelphia.

BAKER—LUDWIG.—On Tuesday evening, December 8, by Right Rev. Alonzo Potter, D. D., Bishop of Pennsylvania, Joseph W. Baker to Emily M., daughter of William C. Ludwig, Esq., all of this city.

KIEFER—EHRHARDT.—On the 8th instant, by Rev. Charles W. Schaffer, D. D., Mr. Frederick W. Kiefer to Miss Mary Augusta, eldest daughter of Frederick Ehrhardt, Esq., all of Germantown.

CAMPBELL—LOGUE.—On Thursday, December 10, by Rev. Stroble, of St. Mary's Church, John Campbell to Miss Kate V. Logue, all of this city.

(Johnstown *Democrat* please copy.)

SMALL—STEINER.—On the 9th inst., by the Rev. Charles D. Cooper, J. William Small to Emily, eldest daughter of J. P. Steiner, Esq., both of this city.

BERG—OSTHEIMER.—On the 9th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Dr. Elmore, Joseph S. Berg to Louise M., only daughter of Maurice Ostheimer, Esq., both of this city.

CARMALT—JOHNSON.—Dec. 8, 1863, at Christ Church, Stratford, Conn., by the Rev. George D. Johnson, Doctor William Henry Carmalt, of New York, to Laura Woolsey, youngest daughter of William Sam. Johnson.

BEST—GRIER.—At Shamokin, Pa., on Thursday, the 10th, by the Rev. A. D. Hawn, John M. Best, formerly of Danville, to Miss Susan J. Grier, formerly of Scranton, Pa.

DIED.

AYRES.—On Tuesday evening, 8th instant, Ellen Criswell, wife of William Ayres, Esq., in the 43d year of her age. Interment at McVeytown, Pa.

JONES.—Suddenly, at Germantown, on the morning of the 9th instant, Lillie, daughter of Chalkley L. and Sophia A. Jones, in the 6th year of her age.

DAVIS.—On the 9th instant, Benjamin Davis, in the 79th year of his age.

BROWNING.—On the evening of the 8th instant, Mrs. Beulah Browning, in the 80th year of her age.

WOOLSTON.—On the morning of the 9th inst., Elizabeth Woolston, wife of Stephen Woolston, in the 73th year of her age.

LOUGHEAD.—On Tuesday evening, 8th instant, Mrs. Mary D. Loughead, relict of Joseph Loughead, in the 80th year of her age.

WALTON.—On the 7th instant, Elizabeth B., widow of Benjamin L. Walton, and daughter of Captain Jacob Coats, deceased.

CROSSMAN.—On Tuesday morning, the 8th instant, Charlie H., son of James M. and Mary Ann Crossman, aged 15 years.

BROOMELL.—On the morning of the 8th instant, of disease contracted in camp, while defending the State from invasion, James P. Broomell, in the 29th year of his age.

MITCHELL.—On the 11th inst., Ann Ellis, daughter of Frances and the late Joshua Mitchell.

RUFFIN.—In this city, on the 6th instant, Miss Sarah B. Ruffin, of North Carolina, in the 56th year of her age.

MACBETH.—At Columbia, South Carolina, June 12, 1863, Ellen, wife of Edward Macbeth, and daughter of the late Doctor Joseph Togno, of this city.

KNEASS.—On the morning of the 11th, Mrs. Sarah Kneass, in the 74th year of her age, relict of the late Christian Kneass.

SHIPPEN.—On the 10th December, at Meadville, Crawford county, Pa., Franklin Shippen, Esq., of this city, son of the late Judge Henry Shippen.

WEEKLY REPORT OF INTERMENTS.

HEALTH OFFICE, December 12, 1863.

Deaths and Interments in the City of Philadelphia, from the 5th to the 12th of December 1863.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Adults.	Childr'n.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	Adults.	Childr'n.
Asthma	2		Fever		1
Abscess		1	" Congestive	1	1
Asphyxia		1	" Scarlet		2
Apoplexy	2		" Typhoid	12	4
Burns and Scalds	1	2	Hemorrhage	1	1
Cancer	2		[illegible]		
" Breast	1		Hooping Cough		1
" Uterus	1		Inflammation, Brain		2
" Stomach	1		" Bronchi	2	1
" Rectum	1		" Heart		1
Casualties		2	" Liver		1
Croup		17	" Lungs	11	13
Congestion, Brain		3	" Periton'm		3
" Lungs	2		" Pleura		1
Cholera Infantum		2	" Sto & Bow.	4	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1		" Tonsils		1
Cachexia		1	Inanition		3
Consumption, Lungs	37	7	Intemperance	1	
Convulsions		9	Jaundice		1
Cyanosis		1	Marasmus	1	6
Diptheria		5	Old Age	12	
Diarrhoea	4		Palsy	6	
Dropsy	3		Pyemia	2	
" Abdominal	1		Parturition	1	
" Brain		1	Run over on Railr'd	2	
" Heart		1	Scrofula	1	1
" Ovaries	1		Softening of Brain	1	
Disease of Brain	2		" Heart	1	
" Heart	6		Small-Pox		1
" Liver	1		Still-born		15
" Ovaries	1		Tumors		1
Dysentery	1		Ulcers	1	
Debility	8	9	Unknown	1	1
Degeneration Kidneys	1		Wounds, gunshot	1	
Effusion on Chest	1		Total	113	113

OF THE ABOVE THERE WERE

Under 1 year	63	From 40 to 50	28
From 1 to 2	10	" 50 to 60	16
" 2 to 5	23	" 60 to 70	17
" 5 to 10	11	" 70 to 80	15
" 10 to 15	8	" 80 to 90	12
" 15 to 20	10	" 90 to 100	3
" 20 to 30	35		
" 30 to 40	31	Total	287

WARDS.		WARDS.		WARDS.	
First	15	Tenth	11	Nineteenth	15
Second	16	Eleventh	4	Twentieth	13
Third	12	Twelfth	5	Twenty-first	6
Fourth	17	Thirteenth	7	Twenty-second	9
Fifth	11	Fourteenth	3	Twenty-third	1
Sixth	11	Fifteenth	15	Twenty-fourth	22
Seventh	29	Sixteenth	6	Twenty-fifth	8
Eighth	14	Seventeenth	9	Unknown	12
Ninth	4	Eighteenth	4		

Total [illegible]

Deduct deaths from the country [illegible]

Net deaths in the city [illegible]

Nativity—United States, 191; Foreign, 68; Unknown, 15. From the Almshouse, 12; People of Color, 19; from the country, 12.

The number of deaths, compared with the corresponding weeks of 1862 and of last week, was as follows:

Week ending December 13, 1862, was 191.

Week ending December 5, 1863, was 251.

Males, 119; Females, 148; Boys, 87; Girls, 81.

Deaths and Interments of soldiers in city, 5.

By order of the Board of Health.

WILLIAM READ, Health Officer.